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...onn tells allies: there's no change in course

...sultations with friendly Western ...ntries are helping the new Bonn ...ment in foreign affairs.

...y have created confidence both at ...and abroad by showing that ties ...n Bonn and its neighbours re... intact after changes at the top.

...consultations also help relax de...tension.

...y take the wind out of the sails of ...ble election campaign argument ...the government is poorly ...to look after the country's for...policy interests because it lacks ...ence.

...ut Kohl has largely maintained ...ity in the foreign policy pursued ...new Bonn government he heads. ...path was smoothed by Foreign ...er Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who ...ave changed sides at home but has no cause to depart from his foreign policy course.

So Bonn's foreign policy new and old is a policy previously laid down and coordinated by Helmut Schmidt.

A successful round of Franco-German consultations in Bonn were followed by two days of Anglo-German talks attended by Mrs Thatcher and no fewer than four members of her Cabinet.

Both rounds of talks bore the hallmark of continuity in foreign policy. Herr Kohl and Mrs Thatcher will not have found it difficult to prepare for the Nato and EEC summits.

Their aim was to arrive at a joint strategy on trade with the East bloc that would not impose an even greater burden on ties with Washington.

President Reagan's intention of lifting the Siberian pas pipeline boycott, which was controversial in America too, will naturally make it easier to return to a greater community of interest with in the Atlantic alliance.

Mr Reagan's decision to come round to the European point of view is a particularly striking proof that Western Europe's determination on the pipeline deal has paid dividends.

Mrs Thatcher, M. Mitterrand and Herr Schmidt did not allow a wedge to be driven between them by the US President. They stood their ground.

They also convinced Washington they were right, so the through over the Atlantic was not followed by a storm.

Herr Kohl, although he was critical at the time of details of how Chancellor Schmidt handled negotiations, approved in principle of the stand Herr Schmidt took.

As Opposition leader he left no doubt that contracts once signed must be obeyed to the letter.

Herr Kohl has not departed from his predecessor's *Ostpolitik* either, but differences in accentuation are clearly apparent.

Now he is Chancellor and leader of a Christian and Free Democratic coalition he shows an air of greater determination and is willing to be more forthright now and again on *Ostpolitik* and defence.

Herr Kohl has been given backing from Whitehall for his policy of being tough but fair toward Moscow and East Berlin and to insist on counter-concessions in return for concessions made by Bonn.

Mrs Thatcher's visit to Berlin was clearly demonstrative, and she has earned respect even in the Kremlin for the determined stand she took on the Falklands.

She was the first British Prime Minister to visit Berlin for 11 years, and her visit showed that Britain backed Bonn's policies toward both East and West.

Bodo Schulte

(Nordwest Zeitung, 29 October 1982)



At the Berlin Wall, British Prime Minister Margeret Thatcher in Berlin with Chancellor Kohl and (right) the Mayor of West Berlin, Richard von Weizsäcker. (Photo: AP)

...nn-Rome bid ...o boost Euro cooperation

...n and Rome are to step up ef...ts to boost European coopera...

...erted efforts to push the Euro...ct, as the Colombo-Genscher bid ...nsify European cooperation is ..., were agreed during Bonn Presi...arl Carstens' state visit to Italy. ...stens was accompanied by his ... Minister, Hans-Dietrich Gens...

...agreed to a suggestion by Sig...lombo, the Italian Foreign Mi... that was endorsed by President ...and Premier Spadolini.

...aid that Bonn, which will chair ...C Council of Ministers in the ...f of next year, should convene a ...n summit meeting.

...e, said President Carstens after ... in Rome, needed fresh impe... ...n and Rome agree on this. The ...st not remain a mere customs ...

...r Colombo felt the proposed ... of the European Council ought ... decisions on both political and

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Bonn President Karl Carstens during his official visit to Rome. He is flanked by Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini (left) and Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo. (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Thatcher makes a point about freedom

Post-war British foreign policy has been remarkably consistent in its clearly stated determination to defend the freedom of Berlin.

It is a voluntary commitment with deep roots in the British view of democracy. Britain has no compunction in pledging support for freedom wherever it is most threatened.

Mrs Thatcher's visit to Berlin and the Wall reaffirmed a point previously made by Queen Elizabeth and past British Prime Ministers.

Like them, Mrs Thatcher had no difficulty in saying just how she felt and in reacting naturally to an unnatural state of affairs.

She was not afraid to call a spade a spade in a context in which many German politicians seem to have the greatest difficulty in doing so.

Maybe this matter-of-factness, the ability to describe a situation just as it is, will make some underestimate the value of such a gift for the hosts.

Mrs Thatcher's attitude has a moral lesson to teach us and she would not be the Iron Lady if she were not to make the point.

The defence of freedom must never be made dependent on geographical considerations, she said. It was purely and simply a matter of principle.

One had no choice of resisting one dictatorship while tolerating another. She did not agree with the faint-hearted who felt a few Falkland Islanders' freedom might be surrendered because it was not worth defending.

Her visit to Berlin may have made some think again about islands of freedom, be they in the South Atlantic or in a sea of oppression and violence such as Berlin in the middle of the GDR.

Hans-Jürgen Müller

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 30 October 1982)

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Missile deployment: time for decisions begins to press

The Bonn government is soon going to face a problem as pressing as that of economic issues — missile modernisation in Europe.

There is a wide gap between the motives behind the resolution to modernise the missiles arsenal and what the public thinks is going to happen.

This was confirmed at a meeting in Berlin held by Shepherd Stone, representing the Aspen Institute and Karl Kaiser, of the German Foreign Affairs Association.

Diplomats and experts from seven countries met to discuss the missiles, including Paul Nitze, the American handling negotiations over intermediate-range nuclear weapons talks in Geneva.

The issue will be a difficult one for Bonn, regardless of who wins the general election proposed for March.

Decisions on modernisation are due to be made next year. Nato deadlines were set in 1979 and will expire at the end of next year. So it is time to start thinking it over.

Americans at the meeting hit a sore point in seeking to rectify the German interpretation of the term "dual track decision."

It meant, they said, that missiles were to be modernised and negotiations might be held, whereas Germans would prefer to see the priorities reversed.

As long as negotiations continued, the Germans argued, the new US missiles ought not to be deployed in Europe.

This misunderstanding has indeed been sold to the German public, but the moment of truth will come soon enough.

In a few months' time the new weapon systems will be installed, as resolved in 1979 by the Bonn government, by Nato and by the SPD party conference.

All Europe will be influenced by the war of words that is sure to be waged in Germany, but especially Bonn's allies and partners in the missile modernisation resolution.

Doubts may fairly be expressed as to whether governments have done enough to impress on domestic opinion the reality on which the missile modernisation resolution is based.

Who has been sufficiently outspoken in making it clear that Soviet SS-20 missile systems have made Europe a nuclear hostage of the Soviet Union?

Who has made the point that Europe must try to extricate itself from this state of affairs and that the missile modernisation resolution was to some extent born of despair and was not taken merely because the West was keen on arms modernisation?

Now the deadline comes closer we can be sure to be told even more emphatically that, as Willy Brandt puts it, the missile modernisation resolution means no systems are to be deployed as long as negotiations are still in progress.

Yet in reality the first consignments will be delivered in April, hard on the heels of the general election.

No-one knows which government will then have to deal with how much of an outcry, let alone violent protest. But there is an alarming prospect of demonstrations directly affecting the US military presence in Germany and possibly being accompanied by acts of terrorism.

German magazines are certain to print ground plans of suitable targets.

The reaction of US public opinion, not to mention its foreign policy repercussions, hardly bears thinking about, so appalling might it prove.

The Russians will have little difficulty in sending up a smokescreen of apparent concessions to confuse the debate in Germany and Europe, thereby making it even more difficult for us to keep domestic opinion clear as to our own goals.

Problems have already arisen because the need to preserve the confidential nature of the Geneva INF talks prevents the Americans from briefing a wider public on how matters stand.

Anti-American sentiment in the West nowadays has no trouble in fleshing out arguments that failure to reach agreement is due solely to a lack of good will on Washington's part.

For this reason alone, it is argued, negotiations must be continued and missile deployment deferred.

Having agreed to regard the progress of the Geneva talks as confidential, the United States is not in a position to cry out from the rooftops how the talks are faring.

The Americans are unable to say in public that the Russians are not prepared at present to make the slightest genuine concession.

They cannot speak out and admit that unless the Russians are prepared to change their minds in one way or another the INF talks can already be regarded as having been a failure.

The Soviet attitude is not, in any case, based on the assumption that the future will be any more gentle than the present is or the past has been.

The West would at least like to reduce the threat posed by the Soviet SS-20 missiles, which the Russians see as their all-round means of keeping neighbouring countries on their best behaviour.

The Russians arms build-up is busy preparing for new threats, such as the SS-21 and SS-22 missiles, not to mention an updated version of the SS-20.

This is the grim truth, and it cannot be changed by any number of homilies. It will be a test of nerves for German democracy, and not one of a kind many would like to see.

Implementation of missile modernisation will not lead to a clash as a foregone conclusion, as though two mad motorists were driving head-on at each other.

The West's viewpoint must be that if we go ahead with missile modernisation the balance will at least have been partly restored.

Can this point be clearly put across to confused people in headlong flight from reality with a mixed bag of vague ideas?

This is the crucial question that faces the SPD Opposition in Bonn at present. Shirking the issue will not do.

Robert Held

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 26 October 1982)

Sino-Soviet stalemate

The Sino-Soviet talks ended in Peking without substantial progress. The two sides agreed to a further exchange of views in Moscow.

Both said they would like to improve relations at government level but admitted that ideological differences between them were insuperable for the time being.

They also said there were serious obstacles to progress on better ties between the two governments.

For the moment (if ever), Moscow cannot agree to Peking's demands for demilitarisation of common border areas, for a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and for an end to the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia.

China still feels threatened, but as the French Communist leader, Georges Marchais, noted on a visit to Peking, "things are on the move."

The resumption of ties between Chinese and French Communists after a 17-year break proves the point. So does their joint rejection of the idea of a single centre of international communism.

This was a sign of flexibility that M. Marchais demonstrated in Peking, doubtless after consultation with Moscow.

He gained the impression that China felt US imperialism was more dangerous than the Soviet variety. Bonn President Karl Carstens returned from the Chinese capital having gained the diametrically opposite view.

But casting confusion is part of diplomacy, and what the Chinese and Russians are currently up to does not seem to amount to much more.

In the Kremlin Mr Brezhnev outlined to Soviet military leaders how he felt about China. He was level-headed but nonetheless hoped better times might lie ahead.

Where nothing is at stake, as at an event held by the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association in Moscow, real parties have been held.

But it still looks as though both the Russians and the Chinese are waiting to see how the Americans react.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 October 1982)

Continued from page 1

economic aspects of European integration.

In the political context he had in mind approval of, say, the European Act. In economic terms he envisaged greater coordination of economic policies, improvements to the European Monetary System and progress on EEC finances.

"For Italy," he stressed, "it is essential for a link to be established, in the framework of a European concept, between bids to strengthen political institutions and efforts to promote economic integration."

After the official part of his visit to Italy Dr Carstens went to Palermo before returning to Rome to visit the Vatican.

He said his talks had shown that Bonn and Rome were largely agreed on world affairs. He felt this was due to common interests as medium-sized European powers.

They were agreed both in European affairs and in respect of ties between Europe and America.

Representatives of both countries emphasised the need to resolve Euro-American difficulties arising mainly from controversy over the Siberian gas pipeline contract between several European countries and the Soviet Union.

Friedrich Meichsner

(Die Welt, 28 October 1982)

Armaments th[e] best defence, says Brezhne[v]

Mr Brezhnev has told Soviet [milita]ry leaders in Moscow that W[ash]ington is waging a political, econ[omic] and ideological offensive against so[cia]lism.

He is right. Mr Reagan is openly [en]gaged in nothing less than a full[-scale] anti-Soviet campaign.

The Soviet response to the US [...] effort was evidently intended to [de]monstrate to Soviet brasshats an[d] foreign opinion that Moscow feels [...] to face the US challenge in the mil[itary] sector.

Mr Brezhnev reaffirmed the doc[trine] of peace by untiring reinforcement [of] defence efforts and combat readiness.

That means Russia too feels b[...] armed to the teeth and strengthen[...] the armed forces are still the best s[ecu]rity safeguards there are.

It goes without saying that Am[erica] and Western Europe are considered [to] be only partly entitled to echo this.

Mr Brezhnev also told his mili[tary] leaders that practical preparations [for] the stationing of new US medium-ra[nge] missiles in Western Europe were al[rea]dy in progress.

This was seen alongside redoubl[ed] US defence efforts and developments [in] Lebanon that could hardly be to the [So]viet Union's liking and which, the [So]viet leader said, must be blamed o[n Is]rael and America.

It was a combination that may [...] have prompted the gathering Sovi[et mi]litary commanders to consider c[...] measures as previously threatened [if the] West were to go ahead with missile [mo]dernisation, a plan the Russians di[...]

In describing the Reagan admini[stra]tion as full of rash and coarse b[eha]viour and brazen egoism Mr Brez[hnev] can be taken to have dismissed any [...] of resuming talking with the US.

He did not so much as waste a s[...] word on the Geneva disarmament t[alks] although it would have been approp[ria]te to do so at a military gathering.

This is the context in which th[e So]viet appeal to Peking, an offer made [for] the third time by the Soviet leade[r in] person, must be seen.

Given the growing complexity [of] world affairs, relaxation of tensio[n on] the other side of the Soviet e[...] would clearly be desirable for the [So]viet military establishment in partic[ular].

But Peking does not seem to hav[e ri]sen to the bait. Mr Brezhnev di[d not] feel there had yet been any change [of] principle in Chinese foreign policy.

Peter Seid[...]

(Bremer Nachrichten, 28 October [1982])

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BONN

Schmidt not to run again for Chancellor

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

[T]he Schmidt era is over. Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has no [int]ention of standing again for the [Ch]ancellorship.

[H]e announced his decision at a meet[ing] of the parliamentary Social Demo[cr]atic party. They put heavy pressure on [him] to change his mind. But he was [...]

[T]here are several reasons. Health (he [has] a pacemaker); rest from the hurly-[bur]ly of politics; and the fact that some [Soc]ial Democrats made only a belated [sho]w of loyalty probably played a part.

[B]ut the main reason is political arith[met]ic. The Social Democrats are not [like]ly to do very well. Forecasts make it [see]m likely that the best result they can [exp]ect is a hung Parliament.

[T]hat might well be a tremendous fea[ther] in Herr Schmidt's cap. If he had [sto]od again it would have been largely [to] his credit.

[B]ut he would still have been only [sec]ond-best. It would be a defeat in [term]s of power politics, and a defeat at [the] hands of a successor he sees as in[com]petent.

[I]f the Free Democrats were to poll [less] than five per cent and their place as [thir]d party in the Bundestag were taken [by] the Greens, or environmentalists, the [Soc]ial Democrats might need to rely on [the] ecologists' backing to regain power.

[T]here could be no question of Hel[mut] Schmidt relying on the Greens; he [reg]ards them with deep suspicion.

[B]esides, no matter how dubious the [circu]mstances were in which power [chan]ged hands in Bonn in September, [Her]r Schmidt sensed that his time was [...]

[A] bid to stem the tide of change, [how]ever brave, would have been only a [sacr]ifice for the SPD to enable the So[cial] Democrats to stand a better chance [at] the polls next March.

[T]he outlook extends as far as March, [and] no further. It never has done. So he [free]ly decided, of his own free will, to [call] it a day.

[He]rr Schmidt will realise that this [come]s as a disappointment to many [vote]rs, and to fellow-Social Democrats [in pa]rticular.

[His] decision is a serious blow for the [SPD]. Regardless whether it may cost [the] party two or five per cent at the [polls], it is a sure sign that it will have [to come] to terms with a spell in Opposi[tion].

[It] will clearly do all it can to bask in [the r]eflected glamour of a man who was [a dist]inguished Chancellor.

[An]d the Social Democrats' eclipse at [the] polls is unlikely to be as serious as [man]y commentators have forecast for [the p]ost-Schmidt era.

[H]ans-Dietrich Genscher, the FDP [lead]er, seems sure to head the Free [Demo]crats in the election.

[Thi]s should make it easier for the SPD [to ke]ep alive over the six months from October to March the effective allegation that Herr Genscher is a turncoat and a traitor to the SPD-FDP cause.

What is more, the interim Kohl government is unlikely to have much that is unduly convincing to show for itself after six months at the helm in Bonn.

Even so, with Helmut Schmidt at the SPD helm it would have been a more closely-run race.

If all had gone well the vote of no-confidence that ousted him might even have gone down in history as a temporary upset.

But the Social Democrats must now genuinely regroup and wage their election campaign from the Opposition benches, which presents a number of difficulties with poll day just around the corner.

At present the SPD may be confused and disappointed, but it would do well not to overlook the long-term prospects it now has.

In reality Helmut Schmidt, by standing down, has set his cap at clarity and honesty. All the party wanted him to do was to stand as the SPD candidate for the Chancellorship in March.

The Social Democrats would then have had to elect a successor, which would no doubt have annoyed many voters who had voted for Schmidt.

So his decision assumes the proportion of a move that clears the decks for the next generation of SPD leaders.

His most likely successor, Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Opposition leader in Berlin, is a man who has emerged from a chequered SPD career as a unifying factor in the party.

Herr Vogel is a linkman and mediator between old-style Social Democracy and new movements. He is a man who might be acceptable to the environmentalists without upsetting traditional SPD voters.

He could well succeed in the long term in accomplishing what SPD leader Willy Brandt dreams of: forging a new left-wing majority now the SPD has been left in the lurch by the FDP.

He could do so; he need not necessarily do so. But it is definitely up to the SPD to cope with the political challenge posed by alternative movements.

This is a task the Social Democrats face regardless how reluctant they may be to tackle it and regardless how many lean years on the Opposition benches it may require.

So Helmut Schmidt's decision not to stand again may well be a service to the party that will stand it in good stead in the longer term.

Joachim Worthmann

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 27 October 1982)

Man who built a foreign policy brick by brick

Helmut Schmidt has bequeathed to his successor a foreign policy established on a firm foundation and a long-term basis.

It combines Konrad Adenauer's *Westpolitik* and Willy Brandt's *Ostpolitik* as a sound basis from which, retaining close ties with the EEC and Nato, to venture into world affairs.

He saw the Federal Republic's difficult position at the East-West crossroads as a position of strength and an opportunity of establishing influence without undue power outlay.

The influence he sought was a constant quest for balance as an active peace safeguard that was best in keeping with his country's economic and security interests and its historical and moral circumstances.

The result was the international reputation the Federal Republic of Germany enjoys today.

Realising how heavily dependent Germany was on European and international conditions, he always tried to see home affairs in terms of foreign policy.

That was how he justified his courageous bid to influence world affairs as a means of creating conditions in which a solution to domestic problems might be possible.

For this the Federal Republic required a credible and feasible overall concept. Helmut Schmidt drew one up and undertook the thankless task of gaining international acclaim for it.

He succeeded only in part, although his successes were in important aspects, but what he aimed at remains the task German foreign policy must accomplish.

Helmut Schmidt came closest to reaching his target in summer 1980, when the Venice summits (the EEC and the Western economic summit) agreed on a global strategy.

It was a strategy combining the West's political, economic and military possibilities that was clearly written to large extent by him.

Later, on an unforgettable visit to the Kremlin, he persuaded the Soviet Union to consider the wide-ranging Western negotiating proposals on disarmament and arms control.

These Western proposals were themselves drawn up at his behest and included in the 1979 Nato resolution to go ahead with missile modernisation if nothing came of them.

Helmut Schmidt ... constructed sound base for the future. (Photo: Sven Simon)

The new US administration that took over a few months later made short shrift of this promising start.

A new Messiah in Washington every four years, as Valentin Falin, the former Soviet ambassador in Bonn bitterly put it recently, is more than world affairs can take.

Helmut Schmidt had to come to terms with four US Presidents, each of whom sought to distinguish himself from his predecessor by pursuing fresh policies.

On three occasions he saw for himself how, after a transitional phase, it was back to continuity in Washington. But not when Ronald Reagan assumed office.

In a fundamental change the Reagan administration scrapped the policy of detente and reverted to 1950s-style confrontation strategy.

It was last summer before this change was confirmed once and for all after the Versailles and Bonn summits had seemingly endorsed a return to the old basic concept once more.

A few days afterwards Alexander Haig was forced to resign as US Secretary of State. Washington imposed restrictions on the Siberian gas pipeline contract that hit America's European allies.

Then there was the steel war between the United States and the European Community and, above all, America's increasingly obvious resistance to policies of security and cooperation in Europe.

Between them, these trends proved that the change of course had prevailed once and for all in the United States.

The new course is based on the doubtful assumption that America is in a position to use its economic and military resources and its lead in modern technology to reassert the world leadership it indisputably held in the post-war years.

Helmut Schmidt sought in vain to counteract the trends triggered by a heavy increase in US defence spending and ruthless monetarist and high interest-rate policies that drove the international economic system to the brink of collapse.

Others must now come to terms with the consequences. They can thank him

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How he reached the top

● Helmut Schmidt, born on 23 December 1918 in Hamburg, was first elected to the Bonn Bundestag in 1953. He figured mainly as a defence expert and opponent of nuclear weapons for the Bundeswehr. In 1961 he returned to Hamburg as Senator for Home Affairs.

● He returned to the Bundestag in 1965, first as deputy to Fritz Erler as leader of the SPD parliamentary party, then, after Erler died in 1967, as its leader.

The Social Democrats had moved in 1966 from the Opposition to the government benches in coalition with the Christian Democrats.

In 1967 Schmidt was elected a member of the SPD presidium, or national executive, and a year later he became a deputy leader of the party.

● In 1969 he was appointed Defence Minister in the first Social and Free Democratic government headed by Willy Brandt. He strongly supported the continued stationing of nuclear missile carriers in the Federal Republic of Germany.

● In 1972 he took over from Karl Schiller for a while as Economic Affairs and Finance Minister. He retained the finance portfolio after a general election.

● On 16 May 1974 he was voted Chancellor by the Social and Free Democrats after Willy Brandt had resigned in connection with an espionage affair at the Chancellor's Office.

The German economy was still suffering from the repercussions of the 1973 oil crisis.

dpa

(Mannheimer Morgen, 27 October 1982)

■ HOME AFFAIRS

Unions give a warning to the Kohl government

Germany's trade unions might abandon their moderate stance on pay if the Kohl government continues with what is seen as an austerity policy at the expense of labour alone.

The government should not ignore the first warning shots across its bows from the trade union movement.

Although the government has changed, the problems remain the same. So does the disenchantment in the German trade union federation (DGB).

It didn't like the policies of the former government and it doesn't like those of the new one.

This is shown by the tide of protest as organised labour takes to the streets in protests that were organised against the "socially unbalanced" cutbacks of the Schmidt government. The change of government has simply shifted the target of the protests, not the cause.

Ironically, the very Social Democrats who supported Herr Schmidt's policies before the Free Democrats decided to change partners have joined the DGB protest marches that were originally directed against them.

Although the new government's social security cutbacks are deeper than the old government's, the fact is that Kohl is simply continuing on the course charted by Schmidt. Even the unions aren't saying that the cuts are just the work of the conservatives.

The DGB is not protesting against *the cutbacks* as such but against the redistribution of incomes that goes with them.

The Schmidt-Genscher government came under attack when it penalised secondary school and university students along with labour while treating above-average earners with kid gloves.

In the end, income ceilings for joint tax returns of couples remained the only sacrifice for high earners Schmidt wanted to introduce in the face of protests from Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff.

The new government has dropped this plan, replacing it by a compulsory interest-free loan to the government for those in the higher income brackets. But since this money is to be repaid, the sacrifice is minimal.

The plans of both Schmidt and Kohl are socially unbalanced. In their effort to revitalise the economy, both were determined to go easy on self-employed professionals and small and medium-sized businesses. They expected the broad working class to help fill the budget gaps.

Though the dispute between the government and unions is likely to heat up in the coming months, it won't go far enough to develop into declared war — even it the DGB does not succeed in bringing about any major policy change.

Kohl is only a provisional chancellor, and the unions will want to see what will happen after the general election scheduled for March.

If Kohl is confirmed in office and if he continues to dismantle the social welfare system without regard for the workers the DGB will have to consider stepping up the conflict.

The still unclear contours of the new policy are bound to become clearer after the March elections — and not only in the social security sector.

The unions will then be able to see what the government's attitudes are on such issues as labour co-determination, unemployment, vocational training and environmental and peace policy. All these elements are of major importance to the unions.

The DGB leadership assumes that labour will have a tougher time in general.

The feeling of being abandoned by the government is likely to become more pronounced in the DGB.

It might be going too far to fear a political radicalisation of parts of labour; but any further alienation between the unions and the government must accelerate a potentially explosive development: the individual branches of the DGB could increasingly try to bring about reforms denied to them by the government through collective bargaining.

Among the issues that could play a role here are shorter working times, more co-determination and the preservation of what has been achieved in the social sector.

With these issues on the table, the dispute is bound to become hotter.

A continued austerity policy at the expense of labour alone could force the unions to abandon their moderation on the pay front and get from the employers what Bonn is denying them.

Helmut Kohl and his cabinet should heed the unions' first warning shots.

Joachim Hauck

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 23 October 1982)

Investment from wages plan

Berthold Keller, chairman of the textile workers' union (GTB), believes jobs in the industry can be saved if workers lend some of their income to their employees for investment.

He says the loans would come from pay increase and would be secured. The worker would not be taking a commercial risk.

Textiles is being hard hit by foreign competition and many workers have been laid off over the past few years.

Herr Keller said the idea of investment from pay packets was neither a departure from nor a criticism of collective bargaining policies.

It was a additional collective bargaining instrument: "We must adapt to changed economic conditions," he says.

But not all union members support him. Some object to providing capital for industry.

Keller says his union wanted neither to forgo wages ncreases nor to uncouple collective bargaining from overall economic developments.

The new government, the Bundestag parties and the business community were engaged in a shift from consumption to investment. Business, naturally, could not exist on investment only but needed demand. That meant consumption.

Harry Roegner

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 22 October 1982)

Opposition to pensions step

Labour Minister Norbert Blüm opposes cutbacks in federal subsidies for the social security pension fund.

The cutback has been planned as part of the project to consolidate finances. The Minister is evidently going out of his way to make sure he is not accused of having this happen at the expense of old-age pensioners.

A big problem the fund faces is paying for a reform of widow and widower's pensions. This has been ordered by the Constitutional Court.

In any event, there is no getting away from the fact that the Federal Labour Office will need an extra DM7bn next year — and the state will find it difficult to raise this money. So will the millions of contribution-paying insured.

No matter what calculation Herr Blüm comes up with, there is always risk both for him personally and for his party.

Since it is impossible to adapt the contributions of the insured, the employer and the government to the new spending structures, the only remaining alternative is to resort to such unpopular measures as reducing benefits to the level of the money available.

Blüm has now cautiously embarked on this road — and it is a thorny one.

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 22 October 1982)

Deciding on a label for the Bonn team

Is the new Bonn government a pro-business government? And if it is, does business do the decent thing and return its support?

These questions have developed into something of a controversy. Two of the central characters in the debate are Professor Rolf Rodenstock and Herr Otto Wolff von Amerongen.

Professor Rodenstock is president of the national federation of Germany industry (BDI) and Herr von Amerongen is president of the standing conference of chambers of industry and commerce (DIHT).

Professor Rodenstock came under fire from the SPD when he called on the business community to start investing. The SPD argued that this was an indirect admission that industry had deliberately delayed investments during the Schmidt-Genscher government.

Now, the critics say, industry is called upon to abandon this reticence although economic conditions have hardly improved since the change of government.

Bavaria's Economic Affairs Minister Anton Jaumann (CSU) defends Rodenstock, saying that calling on industry to invest now showed a high degree of responsibility in the face of unemployment and the threat of redundancies.

Herr von Amerongen said that the new Bonn government should not be branded as pro-business. He emphasised in a radio interview that the CDU was a people's party with a strong working class wing.

No government, he said, can pursue a pro-business policy in the face of labour opposition.

He criticised the new government's plans for the revitalisation of the economy and the consolidation of the budget.

His criticism was primarily directed against the increase of VAT which, he said, should have been coupled with income tax relief for the working population and reduced corporate taxes.

He reiterated his view that, to start with, all subsidies should be cut by [illegible] per cent, subject to review and adjustment later.

In economically difficult times, Herr von Amerongen said, we must be prepared to accept a certain amount of social imbalance — at least temporarily. Trying to achieve a lasting balance leads nowhere, he said.

Tyll Necker, president of the Capital Goods Industry Federation, says investment decisions should not be postponed for fear of election results similar to those in Hamburg and Hesse. The fear of death, he says, could easily lead to suicide in such a situation.

He said that his branch of industry in particular would profit greatly if the government could introduce a [illegible] growth and investment oriented economic policy.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 25 October 1982)

Minister appeals to business on apprenticeships

Economic Affairs Minister Count Otto Lambsdorff thinks that the number of unemployed will reach 2[illegible] this winter. It is now 2m.

Speaking in Berlin to a meeting of about 400 businessmen, he said the new Bonn government needed help from business in the form of investment without government subsidies.

Most of the delegates were from small and medium-sized firms.

Count Lambsdorff deliberately avoided mentioning a wage freeze, a subject that has been raised by the Labour Minister, Norbert Blüm.

But he did say that wage policy could help bring about more investments and more jobs.

He was particularly concerned about young people. He called on business to go out of its way to provide apprenticeships.

Young people must be made to realise that the current economic system was better than any other.

"How are young people to realise this when they start their working lives on the dole?"

Thomas Welter, chairman of the federation of young entrepreneurs (BJU), spoke in favour of a more flexible approach to collective bargaining.

He wanted collective bargaining deals that were not so rigid as to make it impossible for individual companies to depart from them.

"As the elected staff representatives, works councils should be authorised to make such separate deals as they see necessary."

This would strengthen the position of the works councils and should therefore be an approach acceptable to the unions as well.

It would also mean, he pointed out, that collective bargaining would no longer have to "give special consideration to the lame ducks and the top performers among the employers. They could orientate themselves by the average."

Jens Peter Eichmeier

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 22 October 1982)

■ PEOPLE

FDP's man of peace puts in a challenge



Uwe Ronneburger, chairman of the Schleswig-Holstein FDP, is not only a man of honour but also a man who has learned to come to terms with the ups and downs of political life, perhaps because he has never been driven by extreme ambition.

Now, Ronneburger is to stand against Hans-Dietrich Genscher for the national chairmanship of the party at its national congress in Berlin.

His political position is on his party's right, though somewhat ill-defined.

He was born in Kiel some 60 years ago, but his family comes from Thuringia. As a naval officer during the war he married into a farming family on Schleswig-Holstein's west coast.

In 1970, he became the Schleswig-Holstein chairman of his party. It was a time when his essentially middle class and farming oriented party was overtaken by a "social-liberal" trend in the national FDP and exposed to a mood of pervasive self-doubt.

Ever since, Ronneburger — repeatedly re-elected as state chairman — has reflected the majority trends in the Schleswig-Holstein FDP which he describes as strictly "social-liberal".

The FDP in Germany's northernmost state always opted for the SPD as a coalition partner though this was not possible after the latest state election when the electorate decided differently by leaving the FDP out in the cold.

Though Ronneburger has always backed the majority decisions of his state party, he denies charges that he has had relatively little say — and so does his party, which says that it can be an advantage to have a "rightist" at the head of a left-leaning state party.

In the October 1980 national elections, Ronneburger regained his seat in the Bundestag and became chairman of the Intra-German Affairs Committee.

In that position, he managed to put his foot in it on a couple of occasions. Once in 1981 he made some unfortunate remarks about all-German citizenship.

He has progressed beyond his amateurish but likable way of handling major politics.

But this is not enough to successfully stand as a candidate of the "left" against Genscher who has now been classified as a "rightist". Nor is it helpful to Ronneburger that he was alternatingly for and against the FDP's change of coalition partners in Bonn.

Originally a member of the now defunct Deutsche Partei, Ronneburger joined the FDP in 1957, little knowing that he might well one day have to head this party at the dangerous crossroads between "social-liberalism" and "conservatism".

There can be no doubt that Ronneburger's heart is with the conservatives but he is a man of peace rather than a fighter. He enjoys holding office and public acclaim.

It is thus only natural that, in standing against Genscher, he will politely apologise to the left, to the right and to the centre.

Uwe Ronneburger is a shrewd enough politician to know that, although he has been deputy national chairman since 1976, he is not the man to unseat Genscher. But his candidacy for the post could contribute to FDP unity.

Friedrich Karl Fromme

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 October 1982)



Uwe Ronneburger ... might help unity.

Foreign expert a moderating influence

Chancellor Helmut Kohl has departed from tradition and appointed a close personal friend rather than a senior Foreign Office official as the head of the Chancellery's foreign affairs section. The new man is Horst Teltschik. Such a move would have put a serious strain on the old Bonn coalition. The new one can take it.



Horst Teltschik ... opposed firebrands. (Photo: J. H. Darchinger)

The Social Democrats, always concerned with their reputation as a party loyal to the state above all, were particularly scrupulous on this point. The Chancellor's foreign policy advisers under Willy Brandt and Helmut Schmidt were always career diplomats who were above any suspicion of favouring the SPD.

Teltschik, 42, was born in the Sudetenland but spent most of his life in Bavaria. He and Alois Mertes, the new state minister at the Foreign Office, are among the CDU/CSU's top foreign affairs experts.

He learned his trade at the Otto Suhr Institute (OSI) of Berlin's Free University in the mid-1960s under Professor Richard Löwenthal (Willy Brandt's adviser at the time and a man still highly respected in all political quarters). Teltschik graduated with a thesis on the Sino-Soviet conflict.

He began his political career with the conservative RCDS of the Free University whose chairman he was at the very time when Wolfgang Roth chaired the leftist SHB.

At the height of the socalled extra-parliamentary opposition (1967-69) Teltschik acted as Professor Löwenthal's assistant before becoming the head of the Foreign Affairs and *Deutschlandpolitik* Work Group of the CDU in Bonn on 1 January 1970.

Two years later, he went to the Prime Minister's Office in Mainz. Kohl, who was the Rhineland-Palatinate Prime Minister at the time, had become aware of the young man who had courageously opposed foreign affairs firebrands of the CDU/CSU right wing and who frequently prevailed.

The subsequent moderation of CDU foreign policy ideas and the gradual move to almost adopting Bonn's official foreign policy — which was instrumental in helping to arrange the coalition with the FDP — was at least partly due to Horst Teltschik.

In any event, his new post will in no way obstruct Hans-Dietrich Genscher's foreign policy.

But there is no telling what will happen after the March national elections if the CDU/CSU gains the absolute majority and Franz Josef Strauss becomes Foreign Minister.

Unlike his backer, promoter and present boss, Helmut Kohl, Teltschik is not a friend of the CSU chairman.

Werner A. Perger

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 24 October 1982)

Blüm: lots of surprises from shop floor to ministry

The new Minister of Labour, Norbert Blüm, began his term with a sensation: he suggested "a breathing space" on social benefits. He meant no increases.

The shock waves are still rolling. The unions strongly oppose the idea and opposition is spreading in the CDU. Blüm is pinning his hopes for support on those sections of the public which welcome his ideas.

Throughout his political career, Blüm's ideas have often shocked both his colleagues and his party.

As a personality, he has a contagious [illegible], a wit and an incisive intellect coupled with self assurance.

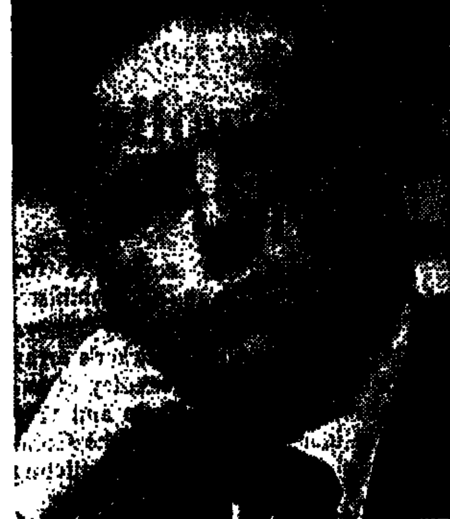
Defying booers and hecklers at a recent union meeting, he eloquently defended his proposals.

Norbert Blüm can speak to organised labour as one unionist to another since he has always been closely involved in union work.

Born 47 years ago in Rüsselsheim as the son of an auto mechanic and bus driver, he trained as a toolmaker at the Opel auto works and spent many years on the assembly line.

He is thoroughly familiar with the industrial workers' milieu the workings of the unions. There is little union officials can tell him. He knows what makes a worker tick.

Blüm attended evening courses to graduate from high school and was later given a scholarship to study philosophy, history and theology. He obtained a doctorate in 1967.



Norbert Blüm ... closely involved with unions. (Photos: Sven Simon)

His political career began in a Catholic youth organisation, taking him to the CDU social affairs committees where he was appointed secretary and later chairman — a post he still holds.

Former Labour Minister Hans Katzer was his mentor and greatly influenced his political thinking.

It was with him that Blüm fought for labour co-determination, frequently resorting to bold polemics.

He left Bonn reluctantly when Berlin Mayor Richard von Weizsäcker asked him to join his Senate. His main worry was that he would have to neglect his social policy work within the CDU. In retrospect, he is glad about the detour that made him shoulder new tasks.

Blüm is a devout Catholic who regards social policy making as part of practised religion. His *leitfigur* is the aged Jesuit Professor Nell-Breunig of whom he speaks with great admiration.

Another of Blüm's personality traits is his spontaneous and frequently burlesque gaiety. He has been known to tackle serious issues at party congresses with the kind of humour that would make even his staunchest opponents laugh.

As a youngster, he found it almost impossible to resist a prank. In a paper paying tribute to Hanna Renate Lauriens, he described how, as an altar boy 35 years ago, he put black powder into the incense bowl used at a funeral, describing the consequences in hilarious terms. The incident marked the end of his career as an altar boy.

Ernst Günter Vetter

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 28 October 1982)



FINANCE

Secret wish: a smaller apple tree next year, please



There have been good crops of fruit this year. Why then, is the price of fruit as high as ever?

The answer inevitably given is that if prices were lowered, the earnings would not even be enough to cover the costs of harvesting and marketing, let alone leave a bit of a profit.

Is the solution then to tell the public to pick its own fruit off the trees?

Farm products that are included in the EEC agriculture system can be certain that their prices will not drop below a set level due to protective tariffs, intervention and guaranteed minimum prices. Whenever a particular type of farm product threatens to drop below this preset level, the Community itself steps in as a buyer.

This has guaranteed stable markets for farm products, secure supplies for the public and relatively firm though not exactly low prices. It also spells financial security for Community farmers.

Despite all obvious drawbacks, the system insolves advantages that were unknown before the EEC came into being.

But there are also considerable disadvantages. The most important of these is that many farm products are no longer subject to market forces and that guaranteed minimum prices inevitably prompt farmers to overproduce, as evidenced by EEC butter and powdered milk mountains.

The enormous amounts of money needed to buy, administer and subsidise the export of these surpluses has been a constant source of irritation for the taxpayer.

It is not surprising that the consumer's irritation is particularly pronounced when harvests are rich and that it is almost non-existent in times of shortage.

What happens is that the consumer is conscious of the disadvantages of the Community farm system while taking the advantages for granted.

Yet it is legitimate to ask whether we are not paying too high a price for relative peace on the agriculture front and the structural improvements that have been achieved.

Even though the aims of this agriculture policy are correct, the answer must nevertheless be "yes" because the same aims could be achieved at a lesser cost if the thing were tackled correctly.

The main problem is surplus production. What are we to do with it? Just storing the excess is not enough; and since most of these products can usually be had cheaper on world markets exporting them only works through heavy subsidies.

But what about giving the stuff away — to the Third World for instance? It sounds good ... but, quite apart from such technical problems as durability, transport and distribution, there is also the question as to whether a needy country would really benefit by becoming the recipient of Western surplus alms and having its citizens become used to a livelihood without work.

A better solution would be to offer these foodstuffs at a price commensurate with the purchaser's state of economic development.

But this would also not solve the problem of pointless and ecologically dangerous surplus production. The only way of achieving this would be to expose farming to market forces while ensuring a certain degree of social stability for farmers.

This would call for output purchases by the EEC related to the area of arable land, which would force the farmer to produce with farming rather than industrial methods.

Anything a farmer produced over and above this land-related quota would have to be sold on the open market at his own risk.

This would do away with such absurdities as the keeping of dairy cows on imported fodder and thus producing subsidised surpluses.

A production quota relating to the land area would certainly not solve all agricultural problems. For instance, medium-sized family enterprises that are an integral part of both the landscape and out social order would even more than now depend on supplementary occupations to augment their incomes.

Some special cases like remote mountain farmers would have to receive direct income subsidies. But it should be worth it.

An area-related income guarantee would prevent such paradoxical conditions as we now have in the EEC: The Community, groaning under the richness of this year's harvest, is secretly hoping for a poor harvest next year lest the budget be overstrained.

The consumer is bound to welcome farm products at market prices even in this country.

Hans-Gerd Heine
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 October 1982)

EEC unemployment in millions
1972 2.9
1974 3.1
1976 5.2
1978 6.0
1980 6.8
1982 (middle) 10.9

National figures
millions (1982) | % of workforce
0.6 Holland 10.5%
3.3 Britain 12.8%
0.6 Belgium 14.6%
1.8 Fed Rep Germany
2.3 Italy 10.4%
1.9 France 8.8%
0.4 Other EEC nations

Brussels predicts slowed growth for Community

The EEC Commission has now joined the chorus of economic pessimists. Its annual report on the economic situation forecasts a Community production growth of, at best, 1.1 per cent next year.

The report speaks of a danger that Europe will be faced with "a long period of slow growth and perhaps even a depression."

EEC experts concede that the predicted economic improvement in the second half of this year didn't happen.

They expect 1982 to close with a 0.3 per cent rather than the predicted 2 per cent growth for the Community as a whole.

Hopes for a slight growth in 1983 are primarily based on an anticipated improvement private consumption and investment as a result of reduced inflation and interest rates.

Foreign trade is not expected to help growth. The Brussels experts say European economy entered the second phase of a "recession with two low points" this autumn.

This extremely serious situation, the experts say, was caused by the 1979/80 oil shock, high interest rates and the development of exchange rates in 1981/82. However, a closer analysis, they say, shows that the present situation is largely due to the "vulnerability" of the structures of European and world trade.

Europe has so far proved unable to respond to changes in its economic environment in time.

The jobless figure in the Community is expected to pass the 11 million mark at the end of this year and rise by another million in 1983.

The Commission sees the main problem not so much in the preservation of existing jobs but in the creation of new ones (needed to accommodate the new generation of job seekers).

While the supply of jobs in the United States and Japan grew steadily until the beginning of the present recession (up 15 per cent), few new jobs have been created in Europe during the past ten years.

The rate at which the Community's two most important competitor countries created new jobs would have been enough to eliminate unemployment in the EEC.

The Brussels experts say the better performance in the USA and Japan is because of better company profits.

Business earnings in Europe — especially Britain and Belgium — dropped badly during the 1960s.

Moreover, they say, the USA and Japan find it easier to adopt the development of earnings to changes economic conditions.

Inflation will take a more favourable course than anticipated. The Commission expects an average inflation rate in the Community of 8.8 per cent in 1983.

This will be mainly due to lower import prices and lower costs in the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain and Holland. However, budget deficits will grow still further in some European countries.

The Commission recommends that countries with extreme budgetary deficits take remedial action as soon as possible. The other member nations should "ensure an adequate level of economic activity."

The report recommends that the Federal Republic of Germany "seize the initiative for further interest rate reductions in Europe."

Countries with particularly high inflation rates, on the other hand, must pay more attention to the fight against inflation than to interest rates.

Wilhelm Hadler
(Die Welt, 19 October 1982)

EEC dispute on trade policy flares into the open

An EEC dispute over trade policies has flared into the open. The principal opponents are France and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Count Otto Lambsdorff and Paris Foreign Trade Minister Michel Jobert have well and truly put their cards on the table. Lambsdorff has accused Jobert of trying to deal with the problems of the 1980s with the methods of the 1930s.

Count Lambsdorff wants continued free world trade and observance of Gatt regulations. M. Jobert says the Gatt system is obsolete.

The differences were papered over at the recent Franco-German summit, but they were fully in evidence at experts' meetings.

The dispute has now developed into a full-fledged clash at the Luxembourg meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Count Lambsdorff compared the draft declaration for the Gatt ministerial conference due to begin in Geneva on 24 November with a hawker's array of goods consisting of a medley of extreme, more or less realistic and very negative items. He said that the Community should avoid such conflicting stances.

The EEC as the world's largest international trading bloc and the region most firmly embedded in world trade must develop its own initiatives for the sake of its image, he said.

He called on the Community clearly to reject all measures that would restrict international trade and that would be in violation of Gatt provisions.

M. Jobert called the Gatt trade system obsolete and out of keeping with today's conditions. Gatt was a fair weather system conceived at a time when

Continued on page 7

THE ECONOMY

Growth a basic problem, say institutes

Germany's five leading economic research institutes are more cautious than ever in their joint forecast for 1983. The autumn report on the economy says demand and growth are on the decline.

The report stresses that there has been no indication since the 1950s to show how investors and consumers would behave in such a situation.

Dangers both in the world economy and in Germany have created instability, the report says.

Most of the institutes forecast zero growth for 1983. Some expect the GNP to shrink.

The five institutes (DIW Berlin, HWWA Hamburg, Ifo Munich, Institute for the World Economy, Kiel, and Rhine-Westphalia Institute for Economic Research, Essen) base their forecast on five assumptions:

- There will be no collapse of the international financial system;
- World market prices for oil and raw materials will remain under pressure;
- The Bundesbank will continue its potential-oriented monetary policy;
- The economic policies of both the Social-Liberal coalition and the new Kohl-Genscher government will be implemented; and
- Collective bargaining deals will be at last year's level of pay rises (four per cent).

If these assumptions materialise, the institutes consider it rather unlikely that the economic decline will accelerate.

They expect a gradual stabilisation of demand and production in the six winter months of 1982/83.

As to the rest of next year, they anticipate a slight increase of overall economic activity.

The report considers the investment climate still poor in this country. If it were not for the expiry of the deadline for investment subsidies at the end of this year, the demand for capital goods would be declining still further.

The institutes therefore anticipate a marked rise in capital goods orders before the end of the current year and a decline of demand in 1983.

Commentators attribute some importance to the outcome of the national elections next March, though they see no dramatic rise in investments in 1983 — even should the present centre-right government win.

There is consensus, however, that demand in the construction sector will rise markedly due to the massive promotion of private housing construction.

The institutes expect the decline of private consumption to continue well into next year. Low wage deals, unemployment, rising social security contributions and cutbacks in social security benefits will permit only minimal rises in workers' incomes.

Looking at 1983
Jobless (millions): 1981 1.27, 1982 1.85, 1983 2.25
Growth (%): 1981 -0.2, 1982 1st half -1, 2nd half +2.5, 1983 -0.5
Investment (%): 1981 -3.8, 1982 -5.6, 1983 +4.5
Price rises (%): 1981 +6, 1982 +5, 1983 +4
Nett profits (%): 1981 +0.7, 1982 +8.5, 1983 +10
Nett earnings (%): 1981 +3.9, 1982 +1, 1983 +0.5

Unlike the four other institutes, DIW, Berlin, opposes all fiscal and wage policies that would hit private consumption still harder in 1983.

A further reduction in the buying power of the work force is seen as dangerous by DIW.

Most of the institutes favour a rise in real wages that would lag clearly behind the medium term rise in productivity.

The reason: a portion of the increased productivity is now due to the fact that unprofitable jobs are being done away with.

To relieve the work force of its concern that it would have to tighten its belt still further, industry should offer collective bargaining provisions that would provide for profit-sharing.

In view of widespread under-capitalisation, capital participation in lieu of wage increases should also receive more attention.

Considering the anticipated zero growth — RWI in fact forecasts a one per cent GNP decline — the institutes see no silver lining for the labour market.

The drop in employment will accelerate during the winter, and the slight improvement in the second half of next year will at best decelerate the growth of unemployment. Like the recent special report by the council of economic advisers the institutes' forecast sees the unemployment figure as reaching 2.5 million this winter and averaging 2.3 million for 1983 as a whole.

The only point of optimism in the report is inflation. The institutes consider that the inflation rate for next year *could* have a 2 before the decimal point. But they generally expect a 3.5 per cent.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 October 1982)

Continued from page 6

the problems of the 1980s were unknown.

Trade and growth now no longer went hand in hand, and only those who showed the highest degree of preparedness could still profit from free trade.

As a result, the EEC must abolish its defensive role in Gatt and go into the offensive to stem the threat to its own markets.

Count Lambsdorf accused Jobert of trying to deal with the problems of the 1980s with the methods of the 1930s. He warned that protectionism would inevitably lead to a depression.

Lambsdorff stiffly opposed any uncontrolled unilateral action in Gatt, saying that this would usher in its breakdown.

Protective clauses on the principle of unilateral selectivity would totally undermine the discipline imposed by Gatt.

Considering such conflicting views, it is a mystery how the EEC is to speak with one voice at the Gatt meeting.

It will take a great deal of intensive work in the next few weeks to solve this problem.

Carl A. Ehrhardt
(Handelsblatt, 27 October 1982)

New steps 'not likely to help investment'

The new government's economic programme is unlikely to lead to much more investment, says the autumn report of Germany's five major economic institutes.

The report dashes any hope the government might have had of support for its measures. The increase in VAT from 13 to 14 per cent and increase insurance unemployment contributions were criticised. This, said the institutes, was not the way to stimulate private consumption.

They said an important point in the performance of the economy would be the result of the general election scheduled for March.

Scepticism about the new economic policy is understandable. It was the present government parties that had always warned against putting excessive burdens on the consumer.

Now, CDU/CSU and FDP are doing exactly that to save social security money and to gain additional scope for investment subsidies.

The autumn forecasts are bleak and the tide of such reports — five in a matter of a few weeks — is also unlikely to improve the mood of business.

Though the institutes again predict a slight improvement next autumn, they did the same for this year — and were wrong.

So they are cagey this year, pointing to the possibility of error by saying that never before has it been more difficult to assess the situation.

This uncertainty doesn't help the Bonn government, which must now try to reconcile its coalition agreement with the advice of its own economic advisory council and the institutes. It is unlikely that the experts' advice will be heeded.

In other words, tax increases and higher social security contributions will lead to a further drop in demand and make the coming round of collective bargaining even more difficult.

Peter J. Velte
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 26 October 1982)



■ INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Paris and Bonn work on new defence concept

Fear and interest, Napoleon once said, are the two levers you need to put the world out of joint. The grip of these levers loosened a little at the Franco-German summit in Bonn.

The summit might even become important for the North Atlantic pact as a whole.

After the declarations by the two heads of government and the previous speeches and moves by the French in particular the outlines of a political structure for a future security concept seem to be taking shape.

Three structural elements are apparent:

1. François Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl feel they can credit themselves with having ploughed a furrow of the 1963 Franco-German friendship treaty that has lain fallow.

"In the sector of strategy and tactics," the treaty reads, "the competent authorities in both countries will seek to arrive at a rapprochement of their respective views so as to draw up joint concepts."

Over the past 20 years it has not been generally acknowledged that this presupposes talks on French nuclear strategy, occasionally including a more far-reaching analysis.

The ice thawed a little under Helmut Schmidt and now seems to have been broken.

2. For several years the French have been engaged in a far-reaching debate on a redefinition of the term "sanctuary," which in the past has invariably been equated with French territory.

Premier Mauroy told the Institut des Hautes Etudes de la Défense Nationale in September 1981 that France's vital interests must be globally defined.

In the missile age, he said, threats were more comprehensive and could no longer necessarily be equated with the national territory.

"An attack on France does not necessarily begin only when the enemy invades French territory," he said. Paris refers in this context to a European defence area.

This accounts for the greater interest shown by the Mitterrand administration in the Western European Union. "The WEU," Defence Minister Charles Hernu has said in a newspaper interview, "is the only organisation in which Europeans can discuss their joint defence problems."

The WEU Treaty includes a support clause, Article IV, which says: "Should one of the high contracting



parties be the target of armed aggression in Europe, the other high contracting parties will lend the party attacked all the military and other assistance it can in keeping with Article 51 of the UN Charter."

The redefinition of the term "sanctuary" and the reactivation of the WEU Treaty, which dates back to the 1940s and 1950s, show that France does not intend to join forces with Germany on its own.

It sees in a wider context the talks between Paris and Bonn on the basis of the 1963 treaty.

The Bonn-Paris axis links at best two wheels of a larger vehicle, and the Western alliance has many axes.

3. Its political framework does not end at the Atlantic coastline. M. Mitterrand and Herr Kohl expressly stressed that both their countries still support the Nato resolution to hold disarmament talks with the East and, if they fail, to go ahead with missile modernisation.

They also agreed that France's nuclear potential was not negotiable at the Geneva talks on intermediate-range nuclear forces.

France fully realises that the US presence in Germany and the American strategic nuclear shield are indispensable for European security.

This is a point on which France's views on vital interests coincide with America's. To quote M. Mitterrand, "the deterrent can only be global."

If the security policy talks in Bonn and the French advances are based on a coherent concept and one must assume they are, then its nucleus must be to reinforce defensive capacity below the strategic nuclear threshold.

What form could this reinforcement take? Little more can be said at this stage than what M. Mitterrand pulled out of the French security policy bag, which is normally fastened tight.

He outlined France's nuclear defence options at Canjuers military camp, saying they included the Pluto and Hades short-range missiles, with ranges of 120 and 350km respectively.

The Hades will not be operational until 1991, while the neutron bomb has yet to be manufactured, although only a political decision needs taking for production to get under way.

These are tactical weapons, to be deployed in Western Europe. Their characteristics changed, the French President said, existing French nuclear policy planning.

This alone was one reason why talks must be held with France's allies about how they were to be deployed.

With reference to their range and capacity he said: "A glance at the map of Europe is enough to show that circumstances have changed fundamentally."

Reinforcement of the Atlantic alliance in Europe thus consisted of the deterrent to and risk run by a potential aggressor having been increased.

They had been increased by closer cooperation among Western Europeans in security and military policy and by a wider range of intensified response options below the nuclear threshold.

Any strengthening of the tactical deterrent only makes sense, however, as long as America's strategic shield continues to afford protection.

Without it, flexing of tactical muscles would be mere gesturing for grandeur.

The drafting, balancing and implementation of new security policy concepts takes time and often money too, let alone a receptive political environment in which to embed it.

So one may assume that furth[er de]tails, assuming it to be a new co[ncept,] are unlikely to take shape before sp[ring] when a general election is due [to be] held in Germany and local govern[ment] elections in France.

They are even less likely to [take] shape before detailed talks have [been] held and views coordinated with [the] Americans.

If they are to cost money, deci[sions] cannot be expected until the Bund[estag] debates the 1984 defence estimates [next] summer.

This presents all concerned wi[th an] opportunity of second thoughts abo[ut a] factor for uncertainty, the fact that t[here] are Communist Ministers in the Fr[ench] Cabinet.

The four Communist Ministers a[re a] Trojan horse in M. Mitterrand's c[amp.] They may ensure a greater degree of [so]cial peace at home.

But the belly of the horse is now [al]most empty, the Communist civil [ser]vants having taken up their posts. S[ecu]rity policy considerations may even [al]ready be under review in the Kreml[in.]

True, at the Paris talks Commu[nist] Ministers were consulted in confide[nce] neither at the time nor later. There w[ere] no official Communists in M. Mitt[er]rand's entourage at Bonn either.

So there could possibly be party-po[li]tical and coalition changes after the [lo]cal government elections in France [in] March.

With backing from the United St[ates] the second stage might then begin.

Jürgen Limins[ki]

(Die Welt, 27 October [1982])

Envoy Burns spells out the differences

Americans and Europeans disagree on nearly all key political issues, says the American ambassador to Bonn, Arthur F. Burns.

They disagreed on detente; on the nature and seriousness of the Soviet threat; on how to react to Afghanistan and Poland; on principles of trading with the East; and on policy towards the Third World.

Speaking to a meeting of Bundeswehr commanding officers, he painted an alarming picture of the Atlantic Alliance.

It was probably the first time that a high-ranking representative of the US government has admitted the extent of the disagreement.

Mr Burns said they were at odds on how to respond to security threats from outside Nato territory, such as in the Persian Gulf.

A political division of Nato into Americans and Europeans was of topical importance on nearly all subjects.

He also said why, as America saw it. Washington took a global outlook especially on East-West ties and the Soviet threat, whereas Europeans took a regional point of view.

The Europeans refused to pay heed to threats to their interests when they occurred outside the limits of Nato territory.

President Carter's proclamation in January 1980 that the Gulf region was an area of vital interest to the United States may in retrospect be seen as the beginning of the end of Washington's fixation on Europe and Nato.

Washington is thus trying to solve a dilemma described at the end of 1981 by the former CIA chief, Admiral Turner.

The United States, he said, was militarily prepared for the most dangerous kind of East-West conflict, a Soviet attack on Western Europe.

But it was not prepared to handle the most likely trigger, a political crisis in a Third World country, such as Iran.

Mr Reagan and his party, in their July 1980 campaign manifesto, proclaimed their determination to face the greater danger to US interests, to aim at military superiority at least on the high seas and to bear "horizontal escalation" in mind.

Horizontal escalation means the transfer of military response from the place where the challenge is posed to somewhere that seems more suitable.

It could, for instance, mean replying to a Soviet threat in the Middle East, where the United States is unable to establish a force superior to the Soviet potential, in Cuba.

In view of the changes in the balance of power between Washington and Moscow, additional areas where Washington feels military commitment might become necessary to defend Western interests include the Caribbean, southern Africa, the Gulf and the Far East.

Two points of emphasis are envisaged given that America, despite any defence efforts it might make, cannot muster the strength needed to prevail in all these regions in the event of a clash, still less to maintain parity everywhere with the Soviet Union.

First, US military potential is to be aimed at the most likely theatre, the Persian Gulf, without losing sight of [the] most dangerous one, Europe.

Second, America's allies and t[heir] military potential are to be incorpor[ated] in this wider strategy.

If need be, Washington is even de[ter]mined to exert pressure on its allies, E[u]ropeans and Japanese alike, to p[er]suade them to make both material [and] political contributions.

It goes without saying that this [US] concept presents problems for N[ato.] The most obvious one, although not [the] most important, is that America is p[ut]ting together a land, sea and air Ra[pid] Deployment Force for use outside E[u]rope.

It will consist of a least two aircr[aft] carrier flotillas, two army divisions[,] a division of marines, and air fo[rce] units totalling 400 to 600 planes.

They used for the most part to be[long] to the reserves earmarked as reinfo[rce]ments for Europe in the event of [an] emergency. They will no longer [be] available for Nato planning.

The more important point is Wa[sh]ington's wish to see its allies make [mat]erial and political contributions tow[ards] this global strategy.

This makes one wonder wheth[er] Nato is to be used over and above [its] original purpose. Europe's alliance [with] America is changing shape.

In their dialogue with Washing[ton] the European Nato countries are go[ing] to have to say more than what they c[an]not afford if they are to ensure t[hat] their interests are looked after.

They will need to do so both in [talks] with the United States and in relati[ons] with the Soviet Union.

Karl Feldmey[er]

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Ze[itung] für Deutschland, 27 October [1982])

[...]es in the largest yacht on sale at [the] Hamburg boat show were sell[ing at] DM5,000 each. It was a 53ft char[ter ya]cht. Eighty part-owners were [...]

[The] yacht, built in Canada and intended to cruise between the Mediterranean and the Caribbean, has a hull of ferro-cement.

[A spe]cial kind of reinforced concrete, [the tec]hnique consists of shaping the [...] of the hull in fastening iron and [...]-meshed wire netting, then [...]g it in finely grained mortar.

[Th]is technique widely used in Ame[rica an]d New Zealand because it is im[mune] to rust but has so far only been [seen n]ow and again in Europe.

[...]ownership is intended not only [as a c]apital investment but also as a [means] of enabling the owners to go on [a ...]ice cruise of their choice every [...]

[The] cement-hulled colossus was one [of] 1,200 boats on show for the last [...]ys in October at Hamburg's in[terna]tional exhibition centre.

[The] organisers felt they were a repre[sentat]ive cross-section of all that is best [in ...]s and leisure craft. All the main [boatbu]ilding countries were represent[ed. The] smallest craft on show sells at [...]00. The most expensive yacht for [...]al DM800,000.

[A]s in the past, most were family [...]uring craft between 21 and 30ft [...]ne of the events at the show was [a ...]day course for do-it-yourself [bu]ilders.

[Exhi]bits arrayed in 13 exhibition [halls] were far from everyday fare. Over [...]nt exhibitors and 500 firms ad[ditiona]lly represented came from 25 [countr]ies and had a wide range of new [...]ons on show.

■ LEISURE

Perennial appeal of mucking around in the rigging

Business was brisk at the Hamburg boat show despite economic recession. Messing about on the river seems to have lost none of its appeal. Lutz Beukert of *Handelsblatt* says in this review that although spare-time sailors may not have money to burn, they still have enough cash to invest in their hobby.

In Germany the chill winds of economic recession have not swept the boat market as devastatingly as they have in other countries.

Spare-time sailors may not have money to burn but they still have cash to invest in their hobby.

The Rajo Sailer 30 is a Dutch-built touring yact with a draught of 4ft. Its hull has a skin of narrow strips of sheet steel welded into place slightly overlapping.

This makes manufacture easier and cuts costs. It sells as a 30ft steel shell at DM39,000 ex-yard but is also available fitted out and seaworthy.

Twiggy is the name of a striking dinghy designed for carriage on a car roof. It weighs 68kg but is 3.75m (12ft 4in) long and suitable for use as a family craft.

It is simply rigged and built with twin shells and solid floats for safety. It is reinforced to take on outboard motor but can also be converted at will for use as a rowing boat.

An electronic boatfinder, the Elba, was at the ready to help visitors find their way round. It catalogued all the boats and surfboards on show.

The computer also supplied details of second-hand craft exhibitors had taken in payment or were selling on a commission basis.

Visitors could put up their own boats for sale by boat show computer for a DM50 fee.

In the equipment market satellite navigation systems are making fast headway. The Shipmate RS 5000 satellite navigator, manufactured by ZN-Technik, was one.

It takes its bearings from half a dozen satellites, flashing position, date and time on to a screen at pushbutton pressure. The Magnavox MX 4102, made by Elna of Hamburg, is even more sophisticated, providing a total of 40 navigational data, including speed, course, drift and exact position.

ZN of Munich also exhibited a met chart writer that printed out not only the usual charts but also the half-tones of cloud in satellite pictures.

Charts are printed on weatherproof aluminium foil. The receiver can be used without an adapter to tune in to short-, medium- and long-wave radio.

Ferropilot of Rellingen, near Hamburg, exhibited an automatic met chart writer using the Furuno device used in the merchant navy.

WPB Yachting of Norderstedt, also near Hamburg, exhibited an echo sounder that relayed a non-stop picture on to a monitor screen.

The device features a dual alarm that sounds both when draught falls below a specified level and when it exceeds levels previously set.

Safety at sea, and not just the theory, was covered by the safety action centre at the boat show, during which experts demonstrated safety devices in practice.

They were backed by talks about various aspects of safety at sea. World circumnavigator Bobby Schenk was flown in from his latest cruise round the South Pacific to present the programme.

Heinemann, a Norderstedt publisher, had an innovation that will have been welcomed by Baltic sailors tired of getting charts soaking wet.

He publishes charts in a handy size, 42 x 60cm, printed on waterproof foil. Yet the course can be entered in pencil. Charts are supplied so far for the German and Danish Baltic coasts only.

The third yacht design seminar was another feature of this year's Hamburg boat show. The emphasis was on basic features of importance both for design and for the yachtsman.

They included speed estimates, interaction between fins and rudders, hull and rigging, surface and resistance, and design assessment criteria.

There were interesting lectures on Simple Boat and Yacht Designs, Modern Wood Construction, and Development of a German 12-Metre Racing Yacht. This is a yacht that will, it is hoped, wrest the Americas' Cup from the United States in 1986.

Lutz Beukert

(Handelsblatt, 21 October 1982)

Schmidt and foreign policy

Continued from page 3

for the fact that they are by no means poorly equipped to do so.

They can also be guided by the policy hallmarks of the Schmidt era, each of which alone would have been enough to ensure him a place in history.

- His main achievement is to have ensured that the Federal Republic had, after 33 years, a foreign policy accepted by the general public and by the major political parties as a sound basis for the future.
- The Franco-German friendship treaty has emerged as an unparallelled instrument of cooperation between the two countries.

For both it is an indispensable groundwork of their international activity and at the same time a dynamic nucleus of European integration.

- In European affairs partnership has been intensified in a pragmatic way so as to gain the Common Market increasing international importance.
- In relations with the East and with the other German state a stable balance has been struck that at a time of increasing tension in world affairs has emerged as a crucial factor in keeping the international peace.
- In engineering a wide-ranging disarmament and arms control concept including all arms sectors Herr Schmidt showed the superpowers in particular the way to realistic talks.

It is a route they can no longer leave without triggering a dangerous international crisis of confidence.

- His international economic activities have included the Western economic summits, the European Monetary System, insistence on stability and a staunch struggle against protectionism.

They have been instrumental in ensuring that the international economic order has remained in reasonable working order so far and helped to prevent worse from happening.

- Under his leadership a fourth sector of foreign policy activity has emerged to rank alongside alliance policy, European integration and *Ostpolitik*. It comprises active participation in the work of the United Nations, the development of sound relations with the Third World countries and advocacy of North-South cooperation on a basis of partnership.

World crisis has not left the Federal Republic unshorn, but by virtue of policies for which Foreign Minister Genscher deserves his fair share of the credit Germany's domestic stability has remained largely unaffected.

Helmut Schmidt, like anyone else, has made mistakes. He was rightly criticised for his attacks on the US administration the tenor of which unnecessarily strained relations with the United States.

But to accuse him of lacking intellectual leadership is another matter.

It was he who thought out and practised a policy of continuity, moderation and consistency, of reliability and calculability, of dialogue and readiness to compromise, firmly anchored in the West and keen to harness the support of understanding partners.

It is a policy that points the way, in a world of partnership, to a peace order for Europe in which the Germans as a nation can feel hope in the future.

Wolf J. Bell

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 27 October 1982)



■ RESEARCH

Communications go-ahead for optical fibres

Work to convert to convert the entire West German telephone cable network to optical fibre will begin in two years.

Optical fibres are simply a more efficient way of carrying impulses, and although they are now more expensive than the present copper wire, in the long run they will be cheaper.

The idea is not new, but the execution is: Alexander Graham Bell, one of the inventors of the telephone, failed in an attempt to relay the human voice by light waves.

It was not until 1970 that success came. American glass manufacturer Corning spun fine threads of quartz glass. They were capable of carrying light.

The technique has now been developed to the stage where the telecommunications division of the Bundespost will be using optical fibres all the time by 1985.

Some advantages of optical fibres:

- Their weight (light)
- Their size (small)
- The availability of the raw material (quartz)
- Their resistance to magnetic fields and currents

In Germany, optical fibre was first laid in operational conditions between Frankfurt and Oberursel in February 1979 over 15.4km, just under 10 miles. The cable weighed 750kg. Copper telephone cable to do the same job would have weighed 15,000 kg.

Quartz, the raw material, is available everywhere and is virtually inexhaustible. Glass is not a conductor, so there will be little or no interference along the line.

It will be virtually impossible for anyone to unwittingly listen in to a conversation. Phone tapping will be virtually impossible.

Herbert Haupt of Standard Elektrik Lorenz, Stuttgart, says laboratory trials are currently concentrating on relaying 2.4 billion signals a second through a single optical fibre.

The fibre is so thin that it takes a strand of 20 to reach a thickness of 1mm, while 2.4bn bits corresponds to the performance of 30,000 conventional telephone channels.

In practice, says AEG's cables division in Rheydt, near Düsseldorf, optical cables so far make do with 600 million signals a second.

They consist mostly of infra-red light, which is invisible and registered by humans more as heat than as light.

There are many qualities that make optical fibre almost certain to revolutionise communications and our way of life.

As Siemens show the historical position in a display chart, in 1841 Morse telegraphy was the only technical means of relaying information available.

A century later, in 1941, there were four options. In 1970 there were eight, and by 1990 there should be about 20.

It will not just be passive media consumption, such as radio and TV, but much more direct, immediate, and personal contact with the outside world from armchair or office via telephone, teleprinter or radio.

The backroom boys have not yet by any means exhausted the possibilities that may yet arise from the introduction of optical cables.

There are drawbacks, of course. The glass used must be extremely pure and is expensive to manufacture, although technically there seem to be no problems.

The only point on which neither industrial nor Post Office spokesmen have so far felt able to venture a forecast is how economic optical cables will be.

The major manufacturers, AEG Cables, Felten & Guilleaume, SEL and Siemens, agree on one point only: optical cable would be too costly for telephones and TV only.

The entire wavelength range must be used, otherwise the cost of optical cable cannot be cut to the point where it would be economic.

Siemens outlines the manufacturers' current problems as follows: "What we need is a new quality in demand for communications media."

Demand is blocked by politiciahs who are still squabbling over the details of new media, such as cable TV, videotex and the videophone.

Who can say when people will be able to plug in to the new media in armchair comfort? It will clearly be a while before the trickle of video communications grows into a stream.

And even if politicians play ball, optical cable is unlikely to trigger a lightning breakthrough for the new media.

At present less than 10,000km of optical cables have been laid in Germany, which is a drop in the ocean when compared with the total 60 million kilometres of telephone cable in use.

In terms of production capaity manufacturers are pretty well on the ball. AEG, for instance, are ready to manufacture 20,000km of optical cable a year.

Other manufacturers are on standby to a similar extent. But conversion will take time and money.

For the time being the various transmission systems are in competition with each other both in Germany and abroad. No-one can say who will make the running with the main customer, the Bundespost.



Message for the future: Optical fibres under production. (Photo:

Bigfon, which is pronounced as as Bigphone in German, is the code-name for 10 different pilot projects in Berlin, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Hanover, Munich, Nuremberg and Stuttgart.

A numer of telephone subscribers in Nuremberg have just started using their first Bigfon handsets. By next year they will be installed in all test areas.

By 1986 the manufacturers, AEG, Tekade, Fuba, Krone, SEL and Siemens, will be awarded grades for the performance of their respective integrated networks.

So behind the scenes manufacturers are jockeying for position in the run-up for major orders, and Post Office technicians in Darmstadt say many improvements are still possible.

Technology has not yet reached the stage Bundespost engineers envisage, and neither manufacturers nor the Post Office have any clear idea of the investment optical cables and the new media will require.

The rule of thumb has for some time been the rumour that investment will total DM100bn over the next 20 years.

Bundespost investment plans are more modest at DM13bn this year, including DM3bn for telephone cables, but only DM280m for cable TV.

From 1985, when copper will [...]dually be replaced by optical cable[...] Bundespost plans to serve newly[...] areas first.

The aim is to build an autobahn [...]ther than a footpath, as a spokes[...] puts it, providing the full media [...] using the latest techniques.

Another point on which informa[...] is scarce is whether the trend will ge[...] rate new jobs or redundancies. [...] seem to differ.

Christian Schwarz-Schilling, the Bonn Minister of Posts and Telec[...]munications, does not seem to [...] written off conventional copper [...] yet.

He has just announced plans [...]tivate conventional cable TV that [...] abandoned by the SPD-FDP co[...] with reference to the new technolog[...]

Chancellor Schmidt's governm[...] also encountered political diffic[...] with the *Länder*, which are respon[...] for media matters.

Schwarz-Schilling's first move [...] been to budget for DM600m more [...] spent on cable TV next year, or rou[...] DM1bn instead of DM410m.

But that does not by any means [...] a breakthrough to multi-channel, [...] alone private TV. The beneficiaries [...] be rural areas that cannot yet receiv[...] three existing channels.

Leonhard Spielho[...]

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 23 October [...])

New element created — for a split second

German scientists have succeeded in creating a new element, No. 109, the heaviest yet. It disintegrated a few thousandths of a second after it was made.

Professor Peter Armbruster and his colleagues at the Heavy Ion Research Establishment in Darmstadt have taken the lead in a research sector, the creation of heavy elements that do not occur naturally, that used to be a US and Soviet prerogative.

Scientists at Berkeley, California, and Dubna, near Moscow, have been the first to create the artificial elements 101 to 107 over the past 30 years.

Soviet methods have not always carried conviction, with the result that their last two discoveries, elements 106 and 107, have been denied international recognition.

Last year the Darmstadt scientists succeeded in creating 107 using different methods.

Chromium ions were accelerated to a tenth of the speed of light in the Unilac heavy ion accelerator and then used to bombard bismuth atoms.

The numbers refer to the number of protons in the nucleus. Chromium has 24, bismuth 83, and the combination would be 107.

Its speed had been estimated in advance. The new element was filtered out. Its radioactive decay tallied with previous estimates too.

The new element was created in much the same way, using iron ions, with the atomic number 26, to bom[...] bismuth.

Again a number of atomic [...] fused, creating individual atoms o[...] element 109 which broke up after [...] hundred-thousandths of a second [...] forecast beforehand.

They too were identified by virt[...] their radioactive decay products.

Experiments of this nature ar[...] just for interest's sake. They help [...] theories about the atomic nucleus.

West German scientists have [...] closer to the ultimate target, cre[...] atoms of the element with the a[...] number 114.

In theory they ought to be perm[...] once created, an island of stability [...] ocean of unstable elements.

All heavy ion rsearch scientists [...] visions of reaching this island, a kin[...] scientific Atlantis. They hope it [...] teach them more about the compo[...] and structure of atomic nuclei.

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und [...] 8 October [...])

THE CINEMA

Fence sitting taken to ultimate on Berlin Wall



[K]abe, the hero of Reinhard Hauff's latest film: *Der Mann auf der* [Mau]er (German title: The Man on the [Wal]l), lives in East Berlin, near the [Wal]l.

[H]e sees the Wall day after day, and [every] day he feels an irrepressible urge to [...] it.

[B]ut no sooner has he climbed over to [the] West than he develops another feel[in]g – the Wall is stopping him from [goi]ng back.

[H]e is a man who balances on the [Wal]l that divides Berlin into two politi[cal] worlds with separate and distinctive [syst]ems of thought and perception.

[L]ike Kabe, the film, with a screen[pla]y by Berlin writer Peter Schneider, [han]gs in the balance.

[I]t is based on an episode from [Schn]eider's *Mauerspringer*, the first [boo]k by a West German writer dealing [exclu]sively with the Berlin Wall, and [Schn]eider has adapted part of it for the [scre]en.

[T]he aim of both is to prevent people [fro]m getting used to the division of [Ger]many.

[K]abe is unable to come to terms per[man]ently with either half of Germany. [He i]s an outsider, an underdog with his [...] about him, a part for which Marius [Mül]ler-Westernhagen is ideally suited.

[Hi]s madness holds a mirror to the in[san]ity of what is regarded as normal in [Ger]many.

"I'm not leaving you," he reassures [his] wife when he decides to escape. "[I']m leaving this state." But he is mis[take]n.

[Aft]er spells in a psychiatric clinic and [sever]al GDR prisons he is finally freed [in ret]urn for Western ransom money. In [the] West the Wall separates him from [his] wife.

[K]abe is not a political person but he [refus]es to conform to political circum[stan]ces.

[He] sees the West with the eyes of a [stran]ger. He would prefer not to get to [kno]w Germany this side of the Wall too [...]

[Th]e German idealist that he is, he [obstin]ately insists on doing things that [are d]oomed from the start. His attempts [to ge]t even with the Wall are pig[headed] and sometimes dangerous.

[H]e has visions of becoming a Ger[man] Moses leading his people across [the] Wall like Moses led the Israelites [throu]gh the Red Sea.

"[On]e of these days," he warns the rest [of the] world, "you'll all be surprised." [He fin]ds a neo-Nazi group is too soft [and i]s dismissed by the CIA as a luna[tic].

[...] he goes through the motions of [comi]ng to terms with the GDR secret [police] in a bid to meet his wife again.

[He] may be a blockhead and resort to [...]y tricks at times, but Kabe is, by [and la]rge, an engaging person.

[H]e plans to exchange his West Ger[man] girlfriend, unbeknown to her, for [his] East German wife. But they make [use] of the opportunity he has arranged [to ta]ke a look at their other side for pur[pose]s of their own.

Hauff and Schneider portray life on both sides of the Wall as fairly gloomy. It cast its oppressive shadow in both directions.

The secret services, their questions and even the appearance of their offices have a depressing intra-German similarity.

In the West isolated individuals occupy themselves with "relationship difficulties" in cold but fashionable bars or sparsely-furnished, makeshift apartments that symbolise homelessness.

They are unable to see the Wall, with its barbed-wire emplacements and GDR border guards with orders to shoot, because they have built a wall between each other.

Hauff paints an engaging picture of a melancholy left-wing TV critic, Towje Kleiner, who ironically characterises the city intellectual with his inhability to support himself, his hypochondria and his tearfulness.

A neo-Nazi group led by a former SS man holds protest meetings at the Wall that pack very little punch. This is one scene that seems to be a standby of social criticism.

The film fails to decide in favour of either tragic grotesque or the epic grandeur of describing a state of affairs.

The Wall seen on the screen is a mock-up of the real thing, but amazingly true to life, if that is the right word for its lethal traps and accoutrements.

On the Western side it is embellished with spray-can graffiti including a sarcastically appropriate "Made in Germany."

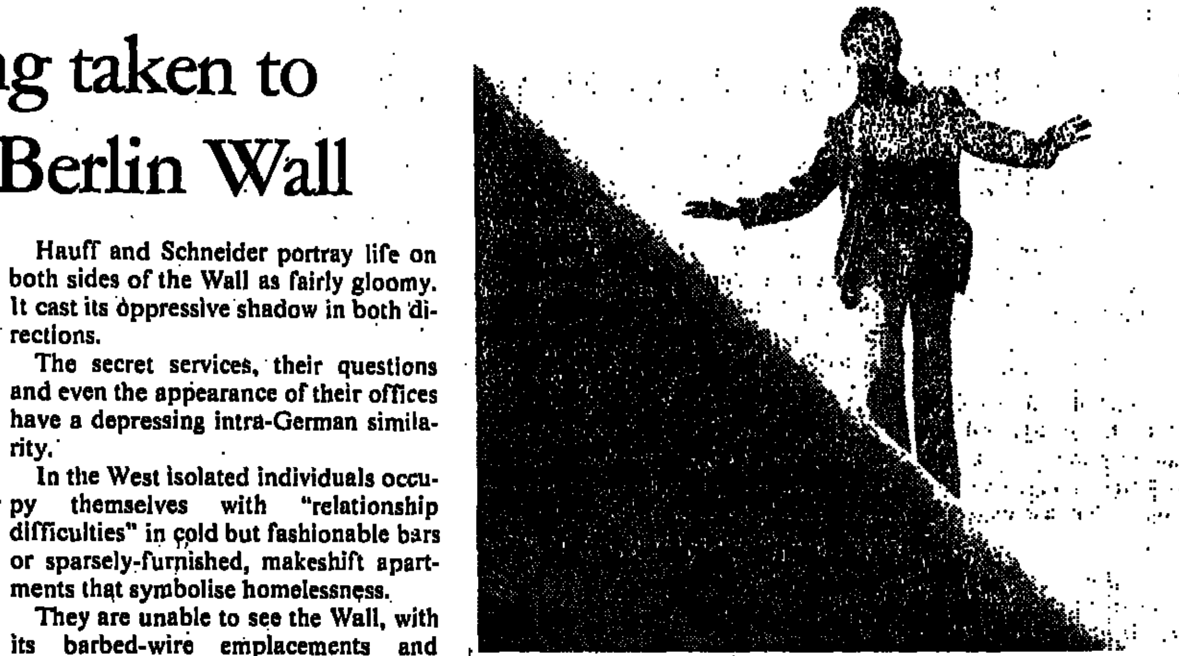
There is black humour in the calculations made by GDR prisoners who have been bought free by the West to work out the marked value of various categories of people and profession.

At times the film also has inane cabaret interludes, as when an East German people's police officer and an Alsatian dog engage in a barking contest.

Hauff and Schneider would like to hurdle ideological barriers, to break down the "wall in the mind."

They would like to supersede the narrow-minded competitive outlook

Continued on page 15



A matter of some indecision ... The Man on the Wall. (Photo: UIP)

When spy from East falls in love with spy from West

Niklaus Schilling's latest film *Der Westen leuchtet!* (German title: The West is Alight!) deals with a special aspect of intra-German ties.

Schilling comes from Switzerland but has lived in the Federal Republic of Germany for nearly 20 years. He has specialised more than any other German filmmaker on German topics.

His films on German character traits and areas of Germany have included *Nachtschatten*, *Rheingold* and *Der Willi-Busch-Report*.

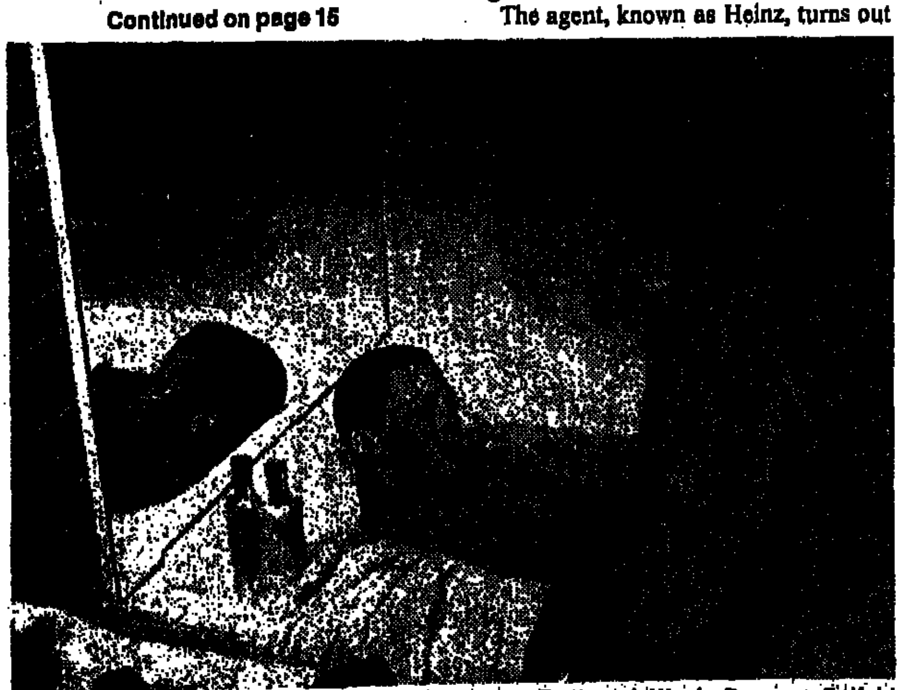
In *Der Westen leuchtet!* he deals not with an archaic myth, as in *Rheingold*, but with a modern myth. The West, especially in Germany, means more than the mere geographical location it once was.

Yet like *Die Vertreibung aus dem Paradies* and *Rheingold*, Schilling's latest film cannot readily be pigeonholed in any one category.

Depending on one's viewpoint it may be regarded as an espionage film, a melodrama or a parody on advertising written for critical consumers.

The plot is quickly told. An East German spy, played with sensitive restraint by former GDR actor Armin Mueller-Stahl, is sent to Munich to check an agent on whom suspicion has fallen.

The agent, known as Heinz, turns out



Where East meets West ... well, spies from East and West. Dagmar Ostfeld (played by Beatrice Kessler) soaks in the suds as Harald Liebe (Armin Mueller-Stahl) looks on. (Photo: CONCORDE-Film)

Hannoversche Allgemeine

to be a woman, and an attractive female spy, played by Beatrice Kessler.

She is engaged in industrial espionage, and not for mere gain but to get her own back on the company she suspects of having been responsible for her husband's death.

This is the stuff of which political thrillers are made, but Schilling had no intention of making do with the usual chases and shoot-outs.

He unwittingly takes us into a much more dubious and dangerous German connection than that of conspiratorial hide-and-seek.

The Eastern spy promptly falls in love with the Western spy, who lives a life of luxury in a home of glass and concrete she shares with her attractive daughter, played by the delightful Melanie Tressler.

The man from the East has been well drilling for his role as a Westerner. He is at home with the conveniences of everyday life in the West as he is with his radio transmitter.

But he was not prepared for the bright lights and glamour of the West. We tend to overlook the bright lights and the neon, but they overwhelm the GDR agent.

He experiences them as a many-coloured labyrinth of mysterious decoy signals. Schilling and his cameraman, Wolfgang Dickmann, highlight the colours with telling effect.

Dickmann well deserved the *Bundesfilmpreis*, or Federal film award, for his camera work.

Just as the man from the East is on the point of being ensnared by his emotions the climax comes. It is all over, although not for him; he is given another chance.

But the West loses its glamour, is no longer alight. The GDR spy goes back to business as usual.

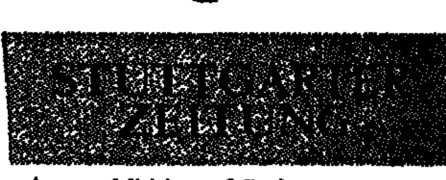
Schilling, having played with his audience's attention, engineers a somewhat malicious denouement. But is an extremely effective finish, and one well worthy of a classic espionage thriller.

Lina Schneider

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 15 October 1982)

■ ARCHAEOLOGY

Exhibition demonstrates significance of Syria



An exhibition of Syrian archaeology is on tour in Germany. All the items are on loan from museums in Damascus, Aleppo, Palmyra and Dayr az-Zawr. Many have been discovered in the past few years.

Putting the exhibition together was no minor feat, considering political conditions in the Middle East. But, fortunately, the work of archaeology does not orientate itself by day-to-day politics.

Some of the most important finds on show come from Ungarit, an ancient city lying in a large artificial mound on the Mediterranean coast of Northern Syria.

Ungarit became particularly famous after the discovery of the temple library which revealed a cuneform script.

Originally consisting of several hundred phonetic symbols denoting syllables and words, the script was later reduced to 30 consonants that could be arranged at will to denote any sequence of sounds.

A subsequently developed Phoenician variant of this script was the forerunner of all Occidental and Arabic scripts.

Syria stands for many things in archaeological terms. There is the desert city of Palmyra with its Hellenistic ruins that attracted European travellers as far back as the 17th century. And there is Damascus, the seat of the caliphs, some of whose buildings have survived.

And then, in the early Christian era, there was the sacred pilgrimage place of Qual'at Simon, one of the finest remaining examples of that time.

Qual'at Simon is a complex of ruins with a 5th century memorial church in the centre. The church was erected in memory of Simeon Stylite. The column on which the Christian ascetic lived is still there.

There is also the Krak des Chevaliers, the largest of all Crusade fortresses which many regard as the most beautiful medieval construction.

German archaeology, which played a major part in exploring antiquities in the Middle East before the Second World War, has been reactivated by the Volkswagen Foundation.

Last year saw the establishment of a German Archaeological Institute local office in Damascus. The Institute's archaeologists are engaged in joint projects with their Syrian colleagues, and the Tübingen exhibition has to some extent been made possible through their good offices.

Their scientific work is also reflected in the 400-page catalogue that goes far beyond what one would normally expect of such a publication (published by Verlag Philipp von Zabern, DM25).

The catalogue contains 350 photographs of most of the objects on show (mostly in colour). This is augmented by extensive descriptions and historic introductions to the nine eras the exhibition spans.

The second part of the catalogue is meant as a supplement to the items on show and describes Syria as a meeting place of peoples and cultures. It presents Syria's people and cities, its ties with Cyprus, Crete, Greece, Egypt and Mesopotamia, its languages and scripts, its rites and myths and, finally, the famous battle between Pharaoh Rameses II and his Hittite adversary near the city of Quadesh in 1285 BC. This is the first battle of the era to be reconstructed with reasonable accuracy.

Since many of the archaeologists who contributed to the catalogue did field work in Syria, the book is a fine introduction to Syrian digs and the artefacts found over the past 120 years.

There is, however, one reservation: the catalogue ignores ties with the Old Testament and today's state of Israel.

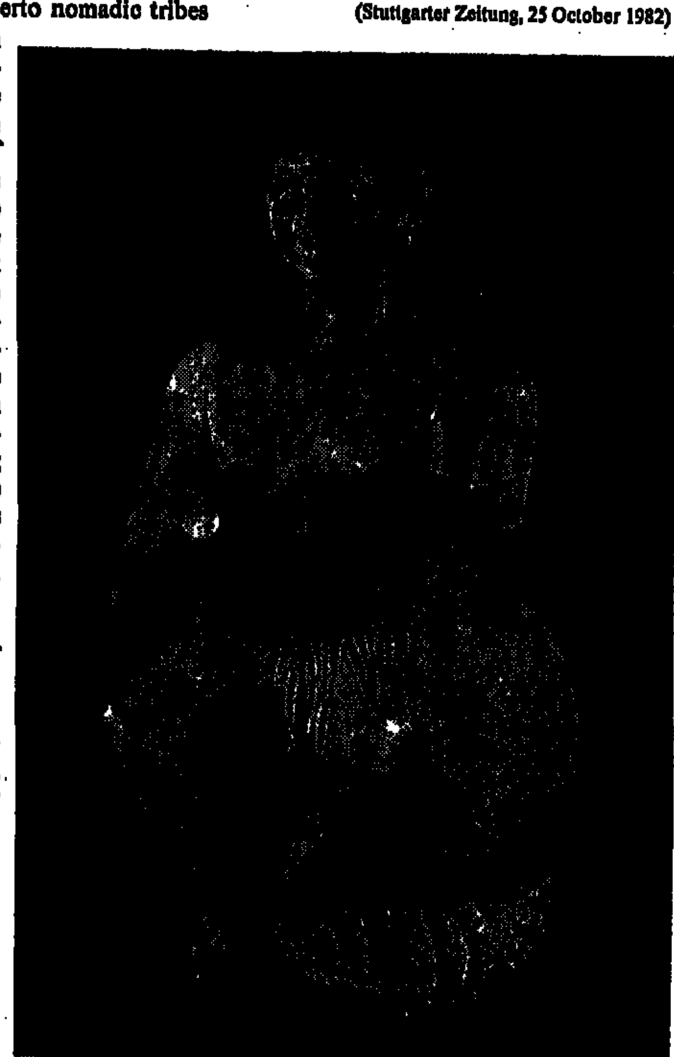
For political reasons, the catalogue mentions only Lebanon and Palestine to the south of Syria.

The introduction by the director-general of Syrian antiquities and museums states that our knowledge of old Syria is not based on Biblical myths and legends but on irrefutable archaeological documentation.

Yet — and this applies particularly to the first millenium BC — the historic source material provided by the Old Testament fills the vacuum in Syria's written documentation for that era.

As part of antiquity's so-called fertile crescent that extended from the region between the Euphrates and the Tigris to Egypt, Syria was one of the areas where man first became settled.

It was along the upper reaches of the Euphrates that hitherto nomadic tribes got together to form a village community as far back as the ninth millenium BC. The village of Murabit, which is represented at the exhibition by some human-shaped cult figures, a stone cup and flint tools, contradicts the common view that the neolithic revolution marked by the invention of farming — this took place one thousand years later — led to community settlement. One of the focal points of the exhibition is the era of the fourth and third millenia BC. Thanks to favourable circumstances, parts of the interior of a Sumerian temple of that time have been preserved, among them a decorative edging in gold foil and coloured stone bands made of rectangular platelets. These items were found by Max Mallowan, Agatha Christie's husband, along a tributary of the Euphrates.


Stone figure, 26cm high, dating from between BC2645 and BC2460. (Photo: Catalogue)

The famous city of Mari on the right bank of the Euphrates River was the hub of a very powerful city-state that controlled far flung trade connections in the middle of the third millenium BC. From here, the exhibition shows a lion-headed eagle, a brooch with some writing on it and a statuette. The materials used were lapis lazuli, carnelian, bitumen, copper, gold and solver — the whole making for unusually beautiful work attributed to local artisans.

The third focal point is Ebla which was uncovered by Italian archaeologists in 1974 and caused a considerable stir in the press.

Among the finds were the archives of the king with more than 13,000 clay tablets providing unique insights into living conditions in the region.

There are also some ivory carvings dating back to the 9th century BC. This was used for some of the ornate furniture favoured by King Solomon, among others.

Unfortunately, the catalogue fails to mention whether this stage of Oriental art (marked by the use of ivory) is to be regarded as a bridge to its Occidental counterpart.

It was at the beginning of the 8th century BC that Greek art, which had previously been dominated by geometric patterns, began depicting figures under the influence of such items.

The Baden State Library in Karlsruhe ten years ago purchased some 40 pieces of ivory work that are so similar to the items shown as to suggest that they were not only made in the same workshop but by the same artisan.

An ivory mirror frame found in a royal grave in Asperg and now owned by the Württemberg State Museum in Stuttgart shows how popular such objects were many generations later: the item was probably imported from northern Syria.

Hartmut Binder

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 25 October 1982)

75 years in Egypt and still digging

One of the oldest and cultur[illegible] most important German ins[illegible] tions in Egypt, the German Archae[illegible] gical Institute, Cairo, has celebrated [illegible] 75th anniversary.

The celebrations were marked by [illegible] extensive exhibition of photogra[illegible] and the handing over of the resto[illegible] Koran School in Cairo's Old City. T[illegible] school was restored by members of [illegible] Institute and the Egyptian Antiqui[illegible] Administration, and the project was [illegible] nanced with German funds.

The Cairo branch of DAI is the th[illegible] oldest of the Institute's 12 foreign bra[illegible] ches. Only the Rome and Athens bra[illegible] ches are older.

DAI Cairo was founded in 19[illegible] through the merger of three institu[illegible] that had been in existence for a decad[illegible] the Science Library of the "Germ[illegible] House" in Thebes, the Office of t[illegible] Science Attaché of the Imperial Emba[illegible] sy (Ludwig Borchard) and the DA[illegible] Borchard was appointed the first hea[illegible] of the new DAI branch in Cairo.

Ever since its establishment, the Cai[illegible] ro DAI has been affected by the politi[illegible] cal ups and downs. Having been close[illegible] during World War I, it was not r[illegible] opened until 1923. It was closed ag[illegible] at the beginning of World War II, [illegible] suming its work in 1955/56. It was o[illegible] cially re-opened in 1957.

The severance of diplomatic rela[illegible] between Bonn and Cairo in 1965 ([illegible] were resumed in 1972) had no effect [illegible] the DAI.

About a dozen German archaeo[illegible] gists are permanently employed by [illegible] Cairo DAI, and there are some [illegible] Egyptian archaeologists working at t[illegible] Institute and at various digs.

The annual budget for actu[illegible] archaeological exploration work, fi[illegible] anced with federal funds and donatio[illegible] from various German foundation[illegible] amounts to about DM500,000 a year. [illegible]

The overall budget of about DM1[illegible] covers other expenditures, including [illegible] stitute publications.

DAI Cairo now works on ten proje[illegible] spanning 7,000 years of Egyptian his[illegible] ry.

A special and relatively new fo[illegible] point of DAI activities in Egypt is t[illegible] restoration of Islamic historic mon[illegible] ments in the heart of Cairo. This wo[illegible] has been promoted by additional fu[illegible] provided by the federal government, t[illegible] Volkswagen Foundation and the Scien[illegible] tific Research Association.

As opposed to turn-of-the-centu[illegible] archaeologists, who profited from t[illegible] sharing of finds — as was customary [illegible] that time — and who thus managed [illegible] fill Europe's museums, the DAI in C[illegible] ro considers its main function to be t[illegible] preservation of Egypt's heritage [illegible] Egypt itself.

The DAI would like future finds [illegible] to be sent to the overcrowded Ca[illegible] Museum, where they would be stored [illegible] basements, but to remain where t[illegible] are found in museums still to be bu[illegible] This would give the viewer an over[illegible] impression of the digs and the finds. [illegible] similar plan has been carried out [illegible] Greece and Italy.

Carl E. Buchall[illegible]

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 October 19[illegible])

■ MEDICINE

Doctors, psychologists, 'should learn more about psychosomatic illnesses'

Many sick people are not physically sick. They have psychosomatic [illegible]nesses, which means that there are [illegible]chological reasons for their illness.

Pills are not likely to help. Psycho[illegible]rapy is needed. But training in this [illegible]t of treatment is inadequate among [illegible]tors and psychologists, delegates to [illegible] conference heard.

The aim of the conference, the 11th [illegible]th German Psychotherapy Congress [illegible] Lübeck, was not to present new me[illegible]al findings, but to help further edu[illegible]tion for doctors and clinical psychol[illegible]ists.

The congress, organised by Drs Gerd [illegible]rson and Werner Koch and Profes[illegible] Hanscarl Leuner and Heinrich Völ[illegible], presented lectures and seminars on [illegible]ic psychotherapy and analysis.

The courses included autogenous [illegible]ining, dream interpretation and fami[illegible] therapy.

Professor Völkel, impressively explained psychoanalytical development and the various phases that underlie it: the infant initially lives in a firm union with the mother. The outside world and other persons (classed as objects) take on shape gradually as does his own consciousness (subject).

Objects and subjects have with negative and positive emotional emphases. Object-subject differentiation takes place in the sequence of the oral, anal, oedipal and genital phases.

The oral phase lays the foundation for tenderness — one side of love. But receptiveness to tenderness is not restricted to the mouth (oral) but encompasses the whole body.

Attachment to the opposite sex parent occurs in the oedipal phase which is later supplanted by the genital phase as sexual maturing progresses.

If the sequence is upset by illness, a man could find himself arrested in the oedipal phase. The result would be that he might see women only as madonnas or whores.

The madonna, modelled on the mother, evokes tenderness only because the incest barrier prevents any further step.

Sex in such cases is only possible with a soulless object in the form of bought sex. Anything else results in impotence, i.e. a neurotic disorder that makes it impossible to react normally.

Psychoanalysis and therapy must attempt to get to the roots of the disorder and the physical disability that might result from it. (Naturally, the whole thing is much more complicated than can be described here.)

Psychoanalysis has been vastly expanded since Sigmund Freud, and few psychotherapists will now adhere to one school of thought only.

Therapies therefore differ widely, the range being from the use of music to the psycho-drama.

Other lecturers described selective aspects of the ego development; and the last two lectures dealt with the limits and dangers of therapy. (Drs. Verena Kast and Johannes Wiltschko.)

The psychiatrist has progressed from "a mere expert" to a "loving companion" of the patient en route to another life — a dangerous highwire act at times.

There were not only such positive aspects at the congress as the committed efforts of young doctors in a bid to achieve better medical care in a field the state health insurance does not pay for.

The only lecture open to the public was delivered by the Catholic theologian Professor Franz Böckle, Bonn, who presented an ideologically biased picture of love relations that was at odds with all other information provided at the congress.

Professor Böckle saw salvation only in Christian ties, describing sexual freedom as a regression.

Though the organisers tried to rectify the picture in a subsequent discussion, the general public gained a wrong impression of the meritorious efforts on the part of the organisers and lecturers.

Hans-Dieter Hellmann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 10 October 1982)

Western attitudes to ethnic treatments criticised

Traditional western medicine has come under fire for its attitude to[illegible]ds the various types of ethnic medi[illegible]es.

Western medicine is unable to fill a [illegible]uum in health care but still blames [illegible]ients when they seek help from other [illegible]rters, says Wulf Schiefenhövel.

Schiefenhövel is a qualified doctor in [illegible] Western sense. He is employed by [illegible] Max Planck Institute of Ethology [illegible] heads a work group dealing with [illegible]nic medicines.

"The unfortunate confrontation bet[illegible]en Western medicine and the healers [illegible] disgraceful reflection on the medi[illegible] profession," he told a meeting in Er[illegible]gen.

He said there is a tide of interest in [illegible]ic treatments from Asia, Africa and [illegible]in America.

People in the West are seeking help [illegible], for example, Amazon or Orinoco [illegible]al medicines, from traditional In[illegible]n and Chinese herbalists or Philip[illegible] nature healers.

He concentrated on outlining general [illegible]ciples rather than details of specific [illegible]tments. He said that over the years [illegible]ous specialists had built up know[illegible]e about ethnic medicines by spend[illegible] time among tribes and recording [illegible]ything on tape.

Schiefenhövel said the most impor[illegible] was that both patients and thera[illegible]s first tried treatments that would in [illegible] western sense be regarded as ratio[illegible], non-magical.

Only when this failed did they resort [illegible] the mystical such as trying to drive [illegible] evil spirits.

This made it strange that so many [illegible]sterners were seeking exotic cures. [illegible] Philippine spirit healers, he said, [illegible] now being managed by the tourist [illegible]ustry.

Dietrich Maiwald, president of the [illegible]den-Württemberg Medical Associa[illegible]n disagreed sharply with Schiefenhö[illegible]. Maiwald recently said the trend to[illegible]rds exotic shamans was a [illegible]tional disgrace."

Maiwald was backed by Marburg forensic medicine specialist Irmgard Oepen and Mannheim judge Wolf Wimmer.

Wimmer is the co-author of a book on modern occultism in which he expresses his intention of clearing the morass.

Protestant clergyman Ebermut Rudolph read a paper on his "Five Years Research Among German-Speaking Faith Healers".

He had interviewed more than 300 of these healers in Germany and in Austria, relating his experience in the book *Die geheimnisvollen Ärzte* (The Mysterious Doctors).

Publication of the book resulted in prosecution against him all the healers who could be found. The healers were accused of illegally practising medicine.

But they were all acquitted. They had taken no money and had done nothing illegal.

Christian Ullmann

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 October 1982)

More revealed about the role of plants

Only one-quarter of the 20,000 known medicinal plants have biologically active ingredients: 500 of them are reasonably well researched.

Doctors have been using these plants since the earliest beginnings of medicine.

Pharmacologists have now rediscovered them — primarily prompted by hopes that some of their active agents could stimulate the body's immunological mechanisms.

Professor Hildebert Wagner, director of the Institute for Pharmaceutical Biology of Munich University, suggested at the Hamburg congress on "Interferon Medicine From the Herb Garden" that medicinl plants could provide an alternative and addition to chemotherapy.

He gave two reasons for the inadequate use of "immunological stimulators": The intricate system of the body's own defences and the substances that stimulate them have not been sufficiently researched and the number of clearly defined chemical substances available for this purpose has been very small.

Most plant substances, he said, were inadequately analysed, making it very difficult to arrive at a correct dosage. Moreover, little is known about their side effects.

First analyses of some of the plants have become available.

Many medical preparations that were widely used in folk medicine and whose active agents were sold in pharmacies had to be withdrawn from the market when animal experiments showed that they could cause cancer.

Other plant extracts that were analysed clearly showed that they could be of therapeutic value.

Wagner analysed above all a number of plants in the*echinacea* family.

He was able to prove that this originally North American plant contains active agents in the form of polysaccharide.

This has provided the chemical confirmation of the plant's effectiveness previously known only through experience.

The sme applies to the Siberian *echinococcus* bush and the extract distilled from it.

Professor Adolf Wacker, head of Frankfurt University's Institute for Therapeutic Biochemistry, has established that liquid extracts of this plant retard the growth of influenza viruses — though only if administered six hours before contagion.

The delegates to the congress stressed that what mattered now was to determine the effective mechanisms of plant substances and evolve specific standards for their therapeutic use.

It is seen as certain that some of these substances stimulate the body's defence mechanism in general, though not selectively.

Professor Wagner spoke of a "paramunity," in other words, the initial reaction by the body to infection by viruses, bacteria, pollen, etc.

He suspects that this initial reaction stimulates the production of interferon, which has a regulating effect on the complicated immunological system.

Klaus Dallibor

(Rheinische Post, 16 October 1982)



■ MODERN LIVING

Youthful fear of nuclear war destruction

Half the young people in Germany are afraid of being annihilated in nuclear war, according to a sociologist.

Werner Fuchs told the annual meeting of *Aktion Jugendschutz* in Böblingen that the only optimistic young people in the country are disco and soccer fans and. to a lesser extent, children of the rich.

Aktion Jugendschutz (AJS) is an organisation designed to protect youth. About 1,000 delegates, mostly teachers, went to the meeting.

The organisation is predominantly financed by the state youth authorities. It aims to prevent educational mistakes by closely cooperating with parents and teachers.

Papers read at the meeting and the subsequent discussions made it clear that there are no patent recipes to educate young people "walking the tightrope between fear and longing."

Peter Wittemann, chairman of AJS, suggested that helplessness, loss of meaning, anonymity and disorientation in the face of life's problems were spreading among the young. They, were trying to withdraw from the dilemma by resorting to drugs and similar crutches.

He pointed to fear as one of these problems — a fear that is deep-rooted in some, cultivated as a fashionable fad by others and used as an excuse for laziness and lethargy by others.

Fuchs, co-author od the Shell study on Youth 1981, suggested that "fearfulness" and "depression" were deep-rooted attributes of the young who, having been provided with equal opportunity within the educational system, found that this didn't help in their working lives.

People who grew up with their parents' idea that they should "have it better one day" found that this was not possible.

They belong to a generation that is growing into a society were all possible lifestyles — ranging from life on a farm to a pensioner's commune — are presented like a bill of fare, making even the least bit of imaginativeness redundant.

Fuchs concluded that the only optimistic young people are discotheque and soccer fans and, to some extent, those whom their parents have well endowed with material goods. The rest, whose political affiliations frequently tend towards the Greens (environmentalists, anti-nukes), are pessimistic and fearful — or at least they are more prepared than the others to admit their fears.

The sociologist suggested that it is a positive trait that many young people join protest groups and are prepared to fight what they think is about to engulf them. Here, he said, pessimism turns into optimism when, on the eve of the holocaust, everybody plants a tree.

"Away from fear to an education that teaches young people what fear is" was the tenor of the paper read by social philosopher Rudolf zur Lippe.

Fear, he suggested, serves only to close one's eyes in the face of a threat, turning fear itself into a threat because it paralyses.

To be afraid of something can stimulate action against the cause of such fear.

Lippe suggested that the very fact that many young people actively oppose the destruction of the environment is a source of hope and a sign that they have adopted Albert Schweitzer's respect for life.

One place where much of all this can be learned is at school, all delegates agreed.

The educational system, which demands less and less knowledge and more and more performance (with the attendant stress), must get away from educating people to be conformists.

Adults should acquire model function by doing what they consider right rather than "what's done and what's not done."

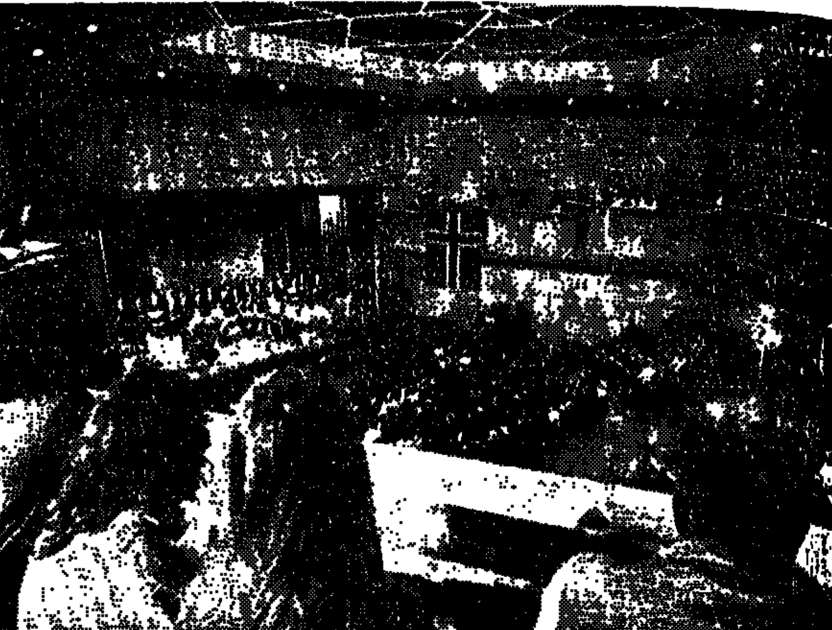
It is necessary to rediscover the old educational principle to the effect that learning must stimulate interest and that the interest must remain even once formal learning has stopped, thus making schools teach for life.

But this would presuppose that our teachers overcome their own frequently deep-rooted depression. Only thus can education shift from its present passive to an active role with new thought impulses for the young.

This should happen as soon as possible for, as the theme of the congress suggests, "Tomorrow Begins Today".

Hansjörg N. Schultz

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 22 October 1982)



Inside Bayreuth's new arts centre. (Photo: Herbert V...)

Bayreuth gets a DM7m arts centre for the young

A DM 7m youth arts centre has been opened in Bayreuth. It will be open throughout the year, providing facilities for a wide variety of artistic activities in the broadest sense.

The opening was marked by an international exhibition of children's art. The centre will be available as a venue for the International Youth Festival.

The Festival was founded in 1950 by Herbert Barth as a summer meeting of young people with musical interests. It has gained world-wide recognition and was the inspiration behind the centre.

Enormous financial and organisatio[nal] difficulties have had to be overcom[e] since the first blueprints for the centr[e] were drawn up 17 years ago. It is no[w] funded by Bonn, the state of Bavaria, the city of Bayreuth and private donors.

The main audience hall has seatin[g] for 460 and a technically up-to-dat[e] stage setup, and the aesthetically pleas[-]ing hexagonal shape is acoustical[ly] outstanding.

The facilities are suitable for theat[re,] concert, dance and cinema.

Grouped around a *central stair[case]* there are smaller rooms for rehears[als,] discussions and artistic pursuits.

It has a floor area of 2,000 square [me]tres. There is enough room for wor[k]shops and laboratories providing facili[]ties for practical work as well as discu[s]sion and art.

The programme for the first month is varied. In music it will include eve[]rything ranging from classical chamb[er] music to jazz, rock, pop, disco and elec[]tronic music.

Amateur work will be guided by pro[]fessionals; for writers there will be [a] language lab and the fine arts are al[so] amply provided for.

There will be courses on pantomim[e,] photography and film-making. Artist[ic] activities will be provided with a touc[h] of reality through talent tests.

A mobile career counselling servi[ce] by the Labour Office has also found [a] niche in the centre.

A pilot project promoted by the Bo[nn] government will provide guest perfo[r]mances with audience participatio[n,] the *Opera mobile*, international semi[]nars and similar events. The emphas[is] will be on the integration of forei[gn] children.

The children's art exhibition, prep[ar]ed in Norway, has 1,500 pictures pain[t]ed in all styles and techniques. This [is] enhanced by sculptures, masks a[nd] dolls from 67 countries ranging fro[m] Tibet to Colombia.

For 72-year-old Herbert Barth, the [in]itiator of it all, the Youth Centre ma[rks] the fulfilment of his life's work.

He sees it as a meeting place, [a] school of tolerance, a bastion agai[nst] estrangement between the generatio[ns.]

Unesco's Jack Bornoff: "Where el[se] in the world is there such a genui[ne] microcosm for youth work as here [in] Bayreuth?"

Fritz Schleicher

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 16 October 19[82])

German-Dutch relations all to pot over hashish sales

A row has broken out across the German-Dutch border because of drug laws in the Netherlands.

The council at Enschede, a town in the Netherlands close to the border, has decided to allow hashish to be sold at the local youth centre.

This has caused anger in the German border towns of Gronau and Ahaus. Officials say the Dutch decision means that people from the two towns can easily cross the border and buy hashish for themselves.

Small quantities of hashish for personal use have been allowed under Dutch law since 1979. It is no longer regarded there as a narcotic.

Enschede council says the official sale of hashish is the only way of breaking black market trade in it and preventing people from going on to hard drugs.

Their idea is to provide information on drugs at the centre and keep young people away from the hard stuff pushers.

Hubert Behler, a senior city official of Gronau, has threatened to discontinue cooperation with Enschede.

"This sort of thing is not done among good neighbours" he says. "After all, it's only a short walk from Gronau to Enschede."

In Ahaus, 25 kilometres from Enschede, City Councillor Dr Dirk Korte demanded that border controls be tightened drastically.

When the Dutch ambassador to Bonn, Dr. K. W. Reinink, visited Ahaus, Mayor Josef Ikemann told him that Enschede's decision had put a severe strain on cooperation between the two cities.

At the North Rhine-Westphalia Labour and Health Ministry, Adolf Huesgen, the state's drug commissioner, alerted Minister Friedhelm Farthmann who instantly got in touch with Bonn, asking the new Bonn Health Minister Heiner Geissler to speak to the Dutch.

An agreement signed in provides for cooperation between the two countries in fighting drug abuse.

Drug Commissioner Huesgen says the number of people going across the border to buy drugs has increased in the past two years.

Clever pushers have established shopping facilities near the border to sell to Germany.

He said this trafficking has been tolerated only unofficially in Holland so far.

The legalisation of the sale now undermines all our efforts to control drug traffic. Young people on this side of the border must be asking themselves if the stuff is really as bad as it's made out to be. After all, a city council allows it to be sold.

"Though this applies primarily to the border region, even such cities as Münster are only 60 kilometres from Enschede and the Ruhr area is only 100 kilometres away."

The city of Enschede has given assurances that no hashish will be sold to Germans at the youth centre.

Horst Zimmermann

(Der Tagesspiegel, 22 October 1982)

[P]ALAEONTOLOGY

[W]hat a jawbone found in a sandpit showed about evolution

[Fr]ankfurter Allgemeine

[Sev]enty-five years ago, on 21 October [19]07, a prehistoric human jawbone [was fo]und in a sandpit in Mauer, a vil[lage ne]ar Heidelberg.

[Hei]delberg man was declared the [oldest] known in Europe at the time. He [...] No later finds have been shown [to be o]lder.

[The] village now uses the jawbone as [a tour]ist attraction and the anniversary [of its] illustrious prehistoric resident is celebrated accordingly.

[If] you drive upstream from Heidel[berg a]long the Neckar lined with tree[-clad h]ills and into the fertile Kraichgau [countr]yside, you will see Heidelberg [...] the nameplate of the village.

[The] village was not around in those [days] of course. The jawbone is now [...] be between 500,000 and 600,000 [years] old.

[In] the village, wooden signposts with [...] on them point the way to the [spot where it w]as found 75 years ago.

[...], signposts may point the way, [...] they have not been taken [...] by souvenir-hunters or demol[...] hooligans.

[There] are postcards of the jawbone. [It a]lso features prominently on car [stickers] and local authority circulars.

[Simi]lar finds were made in Tautavel [in sou]thern France a few years ago. The [mayor] of Mauer twinned his village [with] Tautavel, a Pyrenean village with [prehis]toric cave finds.

[Mut]ual visits are arranged, and a [delega]tion from Tautavel was in Mauer [for th]e anniversary celebrations. The [Frenc]h cavemen were around about [...] years later than Heidelberg [man.]

[The] village held an anniversary event [in the] local gymnasium, attended by a [...] guests of honour, with a gigantic [...] on a backdrop behind the ros[trum.]

[Ther]e was a special anniversary ad[dress,] followed by Cole Porter music, [which] one hopes would have been to [Heidel]berg man's liking.

[Nearl]y 400 of the 3,200 villagers fill[ed th]e hall, showing that community [spirit st]ill runs high even though Mauer [is] more of a dormitory suburb of [Heidelb]erg than a separate farming vil[lage.]

[The] women had even baked special [...] to be eaten with the freshly [presse]d apple juice and wine that was [...]

[The] address, by Heidelberg geologist [...] Kraatz, dealt with recent re[search] findings in connection with the [celebra]ted jawbone.

[Maue]r would naturally like to use its [...] fame to attract visitors. There [used t]o be a steady stream of geologists [and st]udents with hammers and picks.

[But] it has slowed down to a trickle. [The] sandpit is no longer in use. It [was shu]t down nearly 20 years ago, and [the] walls of sand beneath which [Heidel]berg man's jawbone was found at [a dept]h of 24 metres, have now been co[vered wi]th grass again.

[There] is no longer the slightest hope [of fi]nding at least the bones of a prehistoric animal dating back to the days of Heidelberg man either. There is now a football pitch on the site.

A monument was erected on the site that for decades stood out against the background of sand and gravel. It too has disappeared.

Two memorials, erected in 1967 and 1977, still stand, but they are some distance away from the spot where the find was made.

There is even a housing estate on part of the area where prehistoric finds came to light.

Building land has a market value of up to DM300 per square metre. The price may arguably include an extra percentage for the privilege of historic notoriety.

Visitors to the village to pay their respects to the jawbone will soon find more to see than a soccer pitch, expensive houses and monuments.

On anniversary day a small museum was opened. It features a plaster cast of the jawbone and of human finds from Tautavel, plus original bones of animals that were around in the days of prehistoric man.

These bones were found in the sandpit. They include a mastodon's skull, complete with tusks, and are a mere fraction of the 5,000 finds unearthed over more than a century.

They are normally housed in Heidelberg, where Dr Kraatz of the university geology department is in charge of them. He also has the key of the safe in which the original jawbone is kept.

The collection of fossils is a memento of the River Neckar, which now flows a few miles away but half a million years ago passed right through what is now the village.

By the banks of the prehistoric river rhinos grazed in the woods and meadows. Higher up, herds of elephants and bisons moved around.

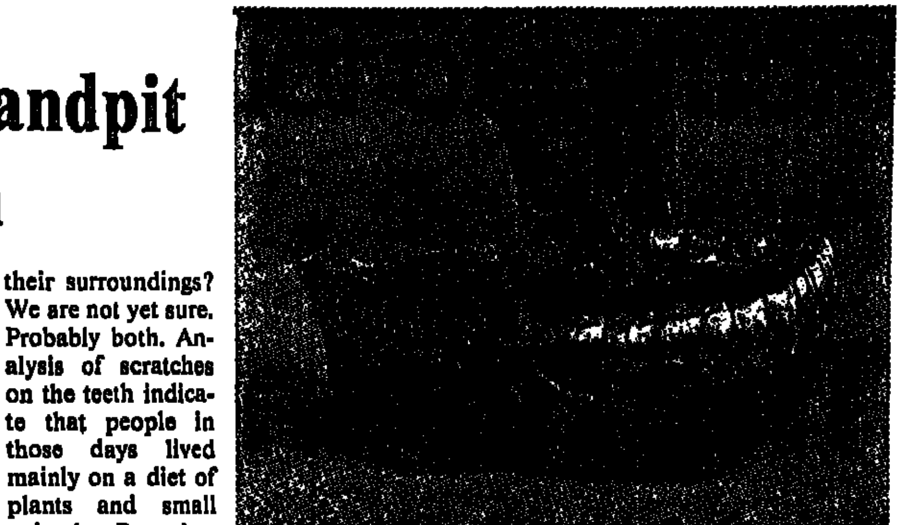
There were also lions and sabre-toothed tigers, panthers and hyenas. The carcases of prey and animals that died on the banks of the Neckar were washed into the river.

They disintegrated. The river pushed them to and fro, together with sand and gravel, until they came to rest in sandbanks and sidearms.

In much the same way the remains of Heidelberg man, of whom only the jawbone has been found, came to rest in the river sand.

He must have lived nearby and have died there, because the jawbone shows no signs of having been rolled around in shifting sand.

He and his tribe were small, about 4ft 3in. Were they hunters or hunted in their surroundings? We are not yet sure. Probably both. Analysis of scratches on the teeth indicate that people in those days lived mainly on a diet of plants and small animals. But they did eat large animals too, although views differ on whether they hunted their own game or stole it from lions and tigers.



And he's never been to the dentist! Heidelberg man smiles for the camera. (Photo: Die Welt)

Animal bone finds include a number of splinters attributable to the bones being smashed with a big stone to scratch out the marrow, which will have been a prehistoric delicacy.

In the 19th century the sandpit yielded several thousand finds testifying to exotic prehistoric fauna. They were often traded by workmen for a beer or a cigar.

At the turn of the century increasing interest was shown in the sandpit by a Heidelberg geologist, Dr Otto Schoetensack.

Those were the days when Darwin's evolutionary theories caused controversy because many felt the idea of man being the descendant of an ape was intolerable and impossible.

But Darwin's theory had just been triumphantly vindicated by a German zoologist, Ernst Haeckel, who forecast that a missing link would be discovered in South-East Asia.

In 1891 Dutch anthropologist Eugene Dubois discovered remains of an ape-man in Java, Pithecanthropus erectus. The animal world of prehistoric Java was much the same as it had been in the Heidelberg sandpit, Dr Schoetensack mused.

Might there not be remains of man's ape-like predecessors in Central Europe too, he wondered, and he spent more and more time in the village.

He carefully instructed workmen who shovelled the sand. They were used to finding animals bones, so he showed them the difference between a monkey's teeth and human teeth, for instance.

He told them might succeed in unearthing the very archetype of prehistoric man, and on 21 October 1907 he received a telegram saying a human jawbone had been found.

He was down at the sandpit the very next morning, having travelled out to the village for 20 pfennigs by third-class rail, to take delivery of the fossil.

A workman, Daniel Hartmann, had struck the piece of bone with his spade. It broke in two but was otherwise safe and sound.

Hartmann immediately realised what he had found and told people at the village pub that evening he had found Adam.

No-one knows whether he was rewarded, but he was certainly a local celebrity and lived to a ripe old age. In 1948, at 93, he was made a freeman of the village.

He died in 1952 and the village had inscribed on his headstone: "To the man who discovered Homo heidelbergensis." A village street also bears his name.

Schoetensack dubbed the find Homo heidelbergensis because he was convinced the jawbone was that of a genuine human being, whereas the Javanese find was an ape-man.

He must certainly have lived in a paradise-like warm age of life on earth, the tertiary period, and to this extent will truly have been an Adam in a Heidelberg paradise.

The jawbone definitely lent powerful support to Darwin's theory of evolution. It also made scientists realise there must have been primitive human life in Europe too.

Reigned supreme

Interpretations of the find, which was to prove the only one of its kind in the sandpit, have repeatedly been doubted and improved on.

But we now know for sure that Heidelberg man did not live in the warm paradise of the tertiary period. He dates back to a warm period between two early ice ages.

We also know that he belonged to the same category of mankind as pithecanthropus, Dr Dubois' Javan ape-man, a category regarded as having been a member of the human species.

He is termed homo erectus, whereas man as we know the species is known as homo sapiens.

Homo erectus was short with a big skull and a big but chinless jawbone, square eyes and a brain roughly a third smaller than present-day man's.

In his day he reigned supreme in the entire Old World. Traces have been found in China, South Asia, East Africa and Europe.

The Heidelberg jawbone has only recently been shown to belong to the same stage of development as all other members of the homo erectus category.

It fitted the skull of homo erectus about 1.2 million years old found in Olduway gorge in East Africa.

Homo erectus eventually developed into homo sapiens, or so scientists like to feel, although the link has not been established with absolute certainty.

Harald Steinert

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 October 1982)

Fence sitting on the Wall

Continued from page 11

that consistently typifies intra-German encounters.

But they succeed only by showing an odd and purportedly critical political indifference, evenly blaming both sides.

Kabe's failure, his determination, his all-or-nothing outlook and his refusal to come to terms with the facts deliberately open the sore of divided Germany.

How long will the man on the Wall manage to keep his balance?

In arduously seeking to avoid one-sidedness Hauff and Schneider have a hard time with the division of Germany, yet they still make life too easy for themselves, so complicated are circumstances in Germany.

Karl-Ludwig Baader

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 October 1982)